



November
2019

THE NATIVITY SCENE



As we begin November, we prepare for All Saints Sunday on November 3, 2019. Historically, All Saints Sunday kicks off our Stewardship Season. By now you should have received a Stewardship Letter and a 2020 Giving Card from The Episcopal Church of the Nativity.

We are continuing the successful Forward in Faith campaign which began last year. During November we will focus on Stewardship and listen to the stories of three people, one on each of the first three Sundays in November, who will share what Nativity means to them and why they give to our church.

On the final Sunday of the month, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 24, 2019, we will conclude the campaign and bless the Stewardship Giving Cards at the altar. After the 10 am service that Sunday, we will have a church-wide Giving Thanks potluck feast in Christopher Hall. The church will provide turkey and ham.

- If your last name begins with an A to N, please bring a side dish.
- If your last name begins with an O to Z, please bring a dessert.

This is a time of celebration as we have so much for which to be thankful!

Speaking of being thankful, I want to express my profound gratitude to the leadership of Nativity, especially to our wardens, the vestry, our exceptional staff and our countless volunteers. I have worked in several churches over the years and I can tell you that our leadership and staff are second-to-none. I could not ask for a better team of colleagues.

May we give thanks for our blessings and celebrate our church family at Nativity at the Giving Thanks potluck on November 24 as we conclude our stewardship season and prepare to develop our 2020 Mission and Ministry Budget.

Faithfully in Christ,
The Reverend Scot McComas
Rector

Photos from The 59th Convention of the Diocese of Arizona, October 18-19, 2019



Nativity Schedule

22405 N. Miller Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255
Telephone:
480-307-9216
nativityscottsdale.org

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I
**10:00 Holy Eucharist Rite II
with Children's Chapel**
11:00 Hospitality - All Are Welcome
11:00 Youth & Children Gather
11:20 Power Bible Study

Tuesday Schedule

6:00 pm Centering Prayer

Wednesday Schedule

10:00 am Centering Prayer
6:00 pm Evening Prayer Rite II
6:30 pm Bible Study Wednesday



Nativity Staff

The Rev. Scot McComas, Rector
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“In those days there was no king in Israel.”

The overarching narrative of the Hebrew Bible, what we commonly call the Old Testament, is that God is creating, sustaining and

redeeming a people to call his own. From the time that Joshua led

the 12 tribes of Israel into the Promised Land, the challenge of bringing peace never ceased. The time of the Judges (there were 12 of them as well) was a time of struggle and strife. The land of promise never ceased to be the land of problems. This period of Israel’s history is characterized by tension and strife between ethnic groups, disputes over whose land is whose, senseless and excessive violence, social chaos, moral confusion and skirt-chasing political leaders—really not a whole lot different than today.

The 7th book of the Bible is titled Judges because it tells of this period between Joshua’s military conquests and the rise of the monarchy

that God raised up wise rulers or governors to bring a voice of justice in an unjust world. Studying it reminds us, as painful as it may be, that we really haven’t come very far from that barbaric time. It teaches us that without grounding in the kind of justice that God demands for society to run peacefully, we will find ourselves repeating the worst kind of history. The book of Judges serves as a mirror revealing that side of ourselves that we don’t like and with which we refuse to engage. Not surprisingly, the results today are similar to the results back then.

Bible Study Wednesday features a study of the book of Judges beginning November 6. Class time is 6:30 pm in the Longley-Cook Center and closes with the prayers of Compline with the final “Amen” by 7:30.

Sometimes the stories in scripture don’t show us the best of who we should be so much as it shows us how we really are—and its not always pretty. Join your Nativity family in this challenging look at ourselves that paves the way to transformation of life.

- The Rev. Dr. Wayne V. Whitney

Adult Christian Education

Sunday Morning Power Bible Study

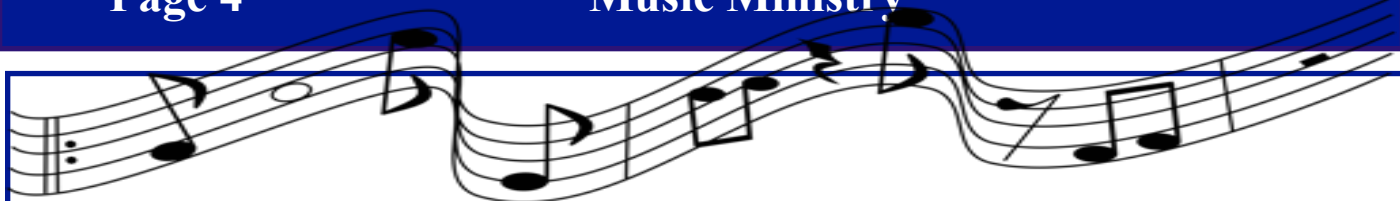
The Sunday morning lectionary texts are all fair game for Power Bible Study. Grab your coffee and snack and join in the exciting journey of enlightenment in the Scriptures—and maybe even learn a new word for your vocabulary! Class is in the Music Classroom and starts around 11:20 and is guaranteed to finish by Noon.

Bible Study Wednesday

Sometimes the stories in scripture don’t show us the best of who we are so much as it shows us how we really are—and its rarely pretty. The book of Judges is one such collection of stories. This much-maligned 7th book of the Bible tends to be the one that we would all prefer to forget. Join your Nativity family in studying this challenging book that reflects our own struggle on the path of transformation of life. Beginning November 6 The Rev. Dr. Wayne Whitney leads this study of the book of Judges. Class time is 6:30 pm in the Longley-Cook Center and closes with the prayers of Compline with the final “Amen” by 7:30.

Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer is in full swing as we meet on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 in the youth room. for prayer, fellowship and thought provoking discussions. We are continuing our study of Cynthia Bourgeault’s book, *Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening*, a primer on how to do centering prayer. All are welcome. No experience required. Contact mvcohea246@gmail.com if you have any questions.



EMERGING ARTIST SERIES

Arts AT NATIVITY



Emerging Artist Jeremy Ruth with Gail Novak

The first concert of our new Emerging Artist Series features clarinetist Dr. Jeremy Ruth with pianist Gail Novak, presenting an eclectic program of works by all female and minority composers called *Trailblazers*.

FRI | NOV 22 | 7 PM

ArtsAtNativity.org

Episcopal Church of the Nativity
22405 N. Miller Road • Scottsdale, AZ 85255 • (480) 307-9216

PRESENTED BY 3RD AVE. ARTS

Arts AT NATIVITY



Veterans Day Concert with Nativity Choir

This concert honors veterans who have served our country. The moving program of commemorative songs and readings will inspire and unite the audience. By donation.

SUN | NOV 10

12:00 noon Sogewood Retirement Community

2:30 p.m. Episcopal Church of the Nativity

ArtsAtNativity.org

Episcopal Church of the Nativity

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PRESENTED BY 3RD AVE. ARTS

FALL FESTIVAL FUN!





A special "Thank You" to these helping hands:
Aaron & Jillian Graves, Pat Shaler, Janyce
Schneider, Dawn Kast & Joan Harris

Photo Credit: 
Dina Horsman, Doug Reed,
Laura Dobbins, Father Scot

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE

Giving Thanks Potluck



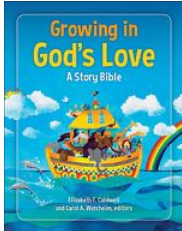
11:15AM Sunday, November 24th

The whole Nativity family is invited
to this day of gratitude!

We will provide the ham & turkey.

Can you bring a side or dessert?

November Updates!



Children's Ministry

Through the month of November, children are invited to join in weekly lesson and activities around Big Bible Stories!

November 3 - Noah & The Ark

November 10 - Abraham

November 17 - Moses

These will be fun, thoughtful, and creative gatherings starting at 11:00 am.

Parents: For a great resource to have at home, consider ordering *Growing In God's Love, A Story Bible* by By Carol A. Wehrheim & Elizabeth F. Caldwell.

Youth Ministry

Looking ahead to the new year, we are hoping to launch a Youth Confirmation Class in January 2020!



Open to students in grades 7 and up, this will be a 6 week course with an overnight retreat.

Confirmation Sunday will be March 1st, coordinating with the Bishop's visit to Nativity.

If you are interested in having your child join this year's Youth Confirmation class, please email MandyHodges@thenativity.net.

ADVENT *preview!*

* PREPARING TOGETHER *

Dec 1

Advent Wreath Workshop



Dec 8

Cookies with Santa party!



Dec 15

Christmas Carol Fun



Dec 22

Pageant practice & greening of the church!



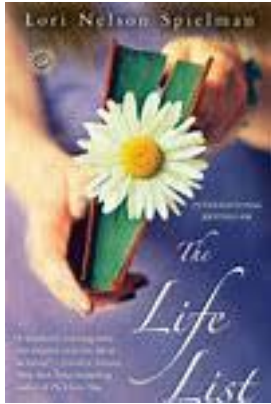


Thank You! A huge thank you to all who planned, prepared, and served at the October 17 Women's Luncheon: Carol Bliss, Margaret Cohea, Cindy Cohen, Joyce Ann Deihl, Jennie Dobbins, Mary Ann Rank, Pat Shaler, Janyce Schneider, and Candy Wagner. I was honored to have been invited to discuss some of the Day of Discovery results and to brainstorm together about Nativity's future.

I'd also like to thank Mary Longley-Cook who planned the recognition of Joy Wiseman, our head greeter for many years. Joy has retired and Mary has graciously offered to take over this ministry. I continue to hear how friendly our church is and it all begins with our greeters. Thank you to Joy and Mary for their leadership.

—The Rev. Scot McComas





Nativity Book Club Meeting

Nativity Book Club has started up again for the season. We meet at 10 am on the 3rd Wednesday of each month except December.

The book for November is "The Life List" by Lori Nelson Spielman. We will meet in Christopher Hall at 10 am on Wednesday, November 20. It is a fun book about a mother finding her daughter's life list as a child and making her accomplish all the items as an adult before she gets her inheritance. It is a good read on how she accomplishes it.

Contact Candy Wagner with questions at 434-466-6790 or candywags@me.com.

Women's Luncheon

The women's monthly luncheon is on Wednesday November 20th at noon. We will lunch at a NEW LOCATION at Grayhawk Golf Club and lunch outside enjoying the beautiful view at 8620 E Thompson Peak Parkway, Scottsdale. Phone 480-502-3154. Before we meet we are asking PLEASE for help for our lunch group to try and get \$25 gift cards to restaurants for our calendar lunch group donation to Adventure. We need more cards to complete 12 months of the year. We are keeping the amount around \$25-\$30. Hopefully your favorite restaurant will donate one. We have donor sign-up sheets at church. Thank you in advance for your help; it is much appreciated.

Contact Candy Wagner with questions at 434-466-6790 or candywags@me.com.

Women's Wine Night

First Thursday of the month, November 7, the Women of Nativity partake in Happy Hour starting at 5 pm at the Living Room in DC Ranch, 20751 N Pima Rd., Scottsdale. For more details, contact Kathy Graf at kgraf518@aol.com.

Men's Pub Fellowship

The November gathering of the MPF is Thursday, November 7 at 5 pm at BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse, 21001 N. Tatum Blvd. in Desert Ridge. Bring a friend or meet and make new ones! For questions, contact Art Graf at mxgk25a@aol.com.

Nativity Film Club

Please join us to discuss JUDY on Saturday, November 9. We work similarly to a book club. See the movie first, then come join in a pot-luck and discussion of the film. Cocktails will start at 6, then dinner and discussion at 6:30. The location will be at Donna and George Hartz's home. All are welcome. Please RSVP to Donna Hartz at dahartz@hotmail.com.



Jewelry Class at Nativity

All are invited to a class at Nativity led by Mary Longley-Cook. Mary will have a couple of helpers with extra tools to assist in the “finishing off” stages of making a piece of jewelry. We all have jewelry that we no longer wear, but that brings back good memories. Maybe it was from a Grandma, Mom, or Auntie. Let’s think about updating and/or redesigning that lovely old piece of jewelry. Its next incarnation might be a totally different item...a bracelet, necklace, keychain, or even a rosary. Mary will share her extensive expertise with the group, and guide us in the options available to redesign our pieces. She will also share lots of gorgeous beads that she has accumulated through the years as a beader. In November we will be meeting on Tuesdays the 12th and the 26th at 10 am in the Youth Room. Allergies are an issue in any group setting. Please remember to respect scent-free requests. Email or phone to RSVP or with questions: Mary: stgermain47@cox.net or 480-272-2053 or Dawn Kast: dawnkast@live.com.

The Knitting Group

The Knitting Group welcomes all levels of knitters and crocheters! We love beginners! We knit hats for the East Valley Men’s Shelter and hats for babies and premies in the hospital. We knit, pray, laugh; not always in that order.

Meetings are the first and third Thursday mornings every month at 10 am in the Youth Room. Contact Deacon Martha Durham with questions or for encouragement: marthadurham@thenativity.net. Our next meetings are November 7 & 21!



From the Flower Guild

Soon we will post a new flower donation chart for 2020 next to the office door and you will be able to get first choice for your special dates. We especially need the dates in January and February to scheduled so we have no break in donations for flowers. As a reminder, sign up for a week and then...

- * Full out an envelope with your dedication which will be included in the Sunday bulletin.
(Needed by Tuesday at noon)
- * Enclose cash/check in the envelope and place on Mina's desk in the office.
(\$50.00 suggested donation). Mina will make sure the money gets to the flower fund.

If you sign up for more than one week, please use an envelope for each week requested.

If you would like to make a Christmas poinsettia donation in honor of, or in memory of, someone a donation of \$20 is suggested. After Christmas, we encourage people to take the poinsettias home to beautify your house or the clergy can take them to nursing homes in the area. Poinsettias do not last long at the church and are happier in people's homes. The forms to fill out for the Poinsettias will be in the Sunday bulletin and in the December newsletter. Thank you for your support with ensuring we have beautiful flowers adorning our church throughout the year.

Film Club - Downton Abbey at Candy Wagner's



Blessing of the Animals at Nativity



Men's Pub Fellowship



Women's Wine Night





CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY
ADVENTure
 FUNdraiser FOR OUTREACH

A short 6 weeks away and our FUNdraising night of ADVENTure will be here. On Friday, December 6 at 6 pm at Nativity we will hold our 6th annual night to raise money to fund our Outreach budget.

An online auction catalog is available November 3 (ADVENTure link under Gather tab on our website) and printed copies will also be available in binders by the Visitors' table for viewing in church. We will also offer Proxy bidding as a test this year for 10 lucky participants who can't attend in person (see Proxy bidding article for details).

What to expect? As you enter the church doors, you'll receive your bid number. Enjoy a cocktail, nibble on the fabulous food, and get ready for the opening bell and dropping of the ribbon. The evening begins with the Silent Auction – set up on tables in the Christopher Hall. Raffle tickets will also be sold during this time. Navajo products, tamale ordering and Jameson specials will also be sold.

At the closing of the Silent Auction, we will hold the raffle drawing, a Live Auction with some special auctioneers and a Gift From the Heart matching grant request.

Then comes dessert and a live audience participation concert in the sanctuary, featuring our choir members. Following the concert everyone will pay for their treasures and collect them by the nursery door in the Longley-Cook Children's Center.

This year's goal is \$27,000. Event tickets and raffle tickets will be sold each week between and after Sunday services. Come join in the fun, visit with friends, and support our Outreach.



If you accidentally miss the deadline for auction items, we will publish a catalog addendum, so you can still donate items for a few more weeks.



ADVENTure 2019, Our Sixth Annual Outreach Fundraiser

Absentee Bidding, A New Way to Participate in ADVENTure

If, for any reason, you can't attend ADVENTure, you can still participate as an absentee bidder via a proxy bidder at the event.

Highlights:

- \$20 - Cost
- 10 - Maximum number of absentee bidders
- Nov. 4th – ADVENTure 2019 online catalog appears on our website
- Nov. 18th – Last day to apply as an absentee bidder
- Dec. 1 – Deadline to send in bidding directions.

The bidding directions provide directions to your proxy bidder to bid on up to 10 silent auction items and on any of the live auction items.

On November 4th, the detailed information on the absentee bidder process will be found, along with the ADVENTure 2019 catalog at nativityscottsdale.org/adventure.

Pease Note:

There is always the possibility that you could win all the items you bid on, so please take that into account when considering becoming an absentee bidder.



Tamale Making - November 9

It is still not too late to join 20 of your fellow parishioners to learn how to make tamales from our friends at Santa Maria, our sister congregation in West Phoenix. It will be on Saturday November 9 at 10 am. We will have carpools leaving from Nativity at 9:15 and will provide directions to those who would like to drive themselves. The sign-up sheet is on the ADVENTure sales table or notify Paul Rank.

Feed the Hungry

Last month was a busy one for the Feed The Hungry Ministry and November looks to be full as well. On Sunday October 27, Mary Zapponi from A NEW LEAF, the parent company for the Men's Center came and spoke to us after the 10 am service about all that they do for the poor and marginal people in the Valley. She also picked up 97 hats that the Knitters Ministry had made for the men to wear during the coming cooler months. They were blessed during the service.

On Monday the 28th we took a lasagna dinner to the East Valley Men's Center (see pictures attached) and despite everyone's feelings that we had twice as much food as we needed, they ate almost every scrap and showed their appreciation as usual. Our next scheduled dinner is Monday, November 25, and we will do ham again. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the gathering area. Be sure to sign up and join the fun. If you have any questions or suggestions for a menu please contact Jon or Mary Anne Bost at: jonrbost@yahoo.com or maryannebost@hotmail.com.



THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU fellow parishioners for your strong support of the CASA Academy weekend food pack sponsorship drive. Thanks to your generosity we will be able to continue to feed the kindergarten through second grade students that have been identified as food insecure at CASA for another academic year. Your contributions allow these children to arrive at school on Monday ready to learn instead of hungry and distracted.

Thank you Nativity for making a difference in their lives and contributing to their success!

If you would like to be involved in packing the food packs, the upcoming packs will take place at 10 am in the fellowship hall on 11/2 & 12/7. We would love to have you join us. All ages welcome! Please contact Laura Dobbins with any questions: lauradobbins01@gmail.com.





**Bag-A-Meal:
Sandwiches for the
Homeless
Volunteers Needed !**

Tuesday, November 5 at 10 am
Join us at Nativity for
Bag-A-Meal for Phoenix Rescue Mission!

Help us make 400 sandwiches,
pack 200 lunch bags and get
to know your fellow parishioners!

General Information

Calling All Nativity Tables!

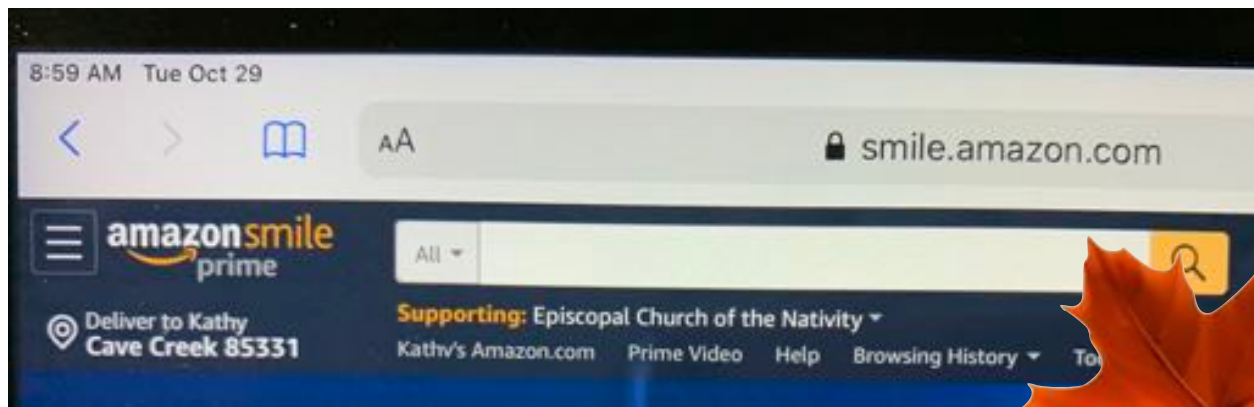
Please kindly return your borrowed Nativity tables to the table closet in Christopher Hall no later than November 30! Thank you.

AmazonSmile - Funds for Nativity

Another contribution Nativity parishioners can make without costing you more money is Smile.Amazon.com! Contact Kathy Graf (kgraf518@aol.com) for more info
Use our unique link - <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-5599218>.

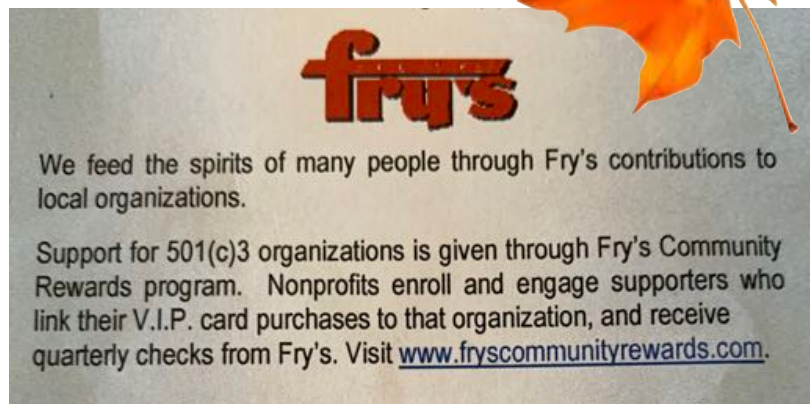
When first visiting AmazonSmile, you are prompted to select a charitable organization from over one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization.

Nativity will receive a portion of your purchase. How does Nativity receive the donations? Each quarter, the AmazonSmile Foundation makes donations to eligible charitable organizations by electronic funds transfer.



Fry's

Nativity would like you to sign up for the Fry's Community Rewards Program! Contact Kathy Graf (kgraf518@aol.com) or Kay Blinn (Kayblinn@gmail.com) for more info. Thank you to anyone who is interested in participating!



General Information

Shawls for all who might be chilly

Debbie Myrick has gathered and laundered the shawls for your use if you find the air-conditioning a bit much. Simply return them after the service.

Scent-Free Seating in the Nave

Because some folks have allergy issues, we have created a scent-free seating area in the west section of the sanctuary near the chapel. Please sit in that section only if you are free of scented items such as perfume, after-shave, body spray, hand lotion, etc. It's an act of hospitality.

The Sunday Coffee & Treats Ministry

The hospitality ministry appreciates BOTH your baked goods and your cash donations! Please continue to contribute to this ministry! If you have any questions about donating treats, call Joan at 610-291-4262 or Dawn at 218-252-3092.

Prayer Team

If you or someone special to you are in need of prayers you have several options to let the prayer team know of the request. Please let one of the clergy know. There also is a book for prayer requests on the table by the entrance to Christopher Hall, or you may email Joyce Graves at bjlgraves@cox.net or call 602-885-8828. All prayers are kept confidential within the prayer team. We also ask that you give us an update preferably every month or so about the person or persons you have asked us to pray for.

Deadline Changes

All announcements that you would like to see in the Sunday bulletins and the weekly email blasts should be emailed to Mina at minarafferty@thenativity.net by noon on Mondays. Submittals for the monthly newsletters will be the 23rd of the month. If you have any questions, please contact Mina at 480-307-9216 or minarafferty@thenativity.net.

Special Moments

Sharing the special moments of our lives strengthens the bonds of our community. We'd love to send each of you a messages of joy and happiness on your special day. Won't you please help us by emailing your birthday and anniversary to Mina Rafferty (minarafferty@thenativity.net) or dropping off a note in the church office.

Month and day are perfect –
no year is necessary!





The Episcopal Church of the Nativity
Mailing Address:
22405 North Miller Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

Worship Sundays
8:30 & 10:00 a.m.
www.nativityscottsdale.org

Upcoming Events

11/2	CASA Food Packing	p. 13	11/20	Book Club	p. 11
11/5	Bag-A-Meal	p. 17	11/20	Women's Luncheon	p. 11
11/7	Women's Wine Night	p. 11	11/21	Knitting Group	p. 12
11/7	Men's Pub Fellowship	p. 11	11/22	Arts at Nativity	p. 5
11/7	Knitting Group	p. 12	11/24	Potluck	p. 4
11/9	Tamale Making	p. 15	11/26	Jewelry Class	p. 12
11/9	Film Club	p. 11	11/27	Feed the Hungry	p. 13
11/10	Arts at Nativity	p. 6	12/6	ADVENTure	p. 14
11/12	Jewelry Class	p. 12			