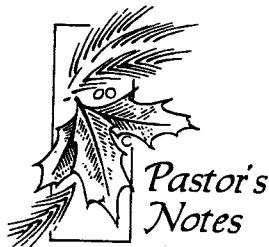


MorroBayLutherans.org

The Calvary Calling

Newsletter for December, 2012

Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church
480 Monterey Ave., Morro Bay, CA 93442
Office Phone - (805) 772-8457
email – morrobaylutherans@sbcglobal.net
Website – www.morrobaylutherans.org



✦ FROM THE PASTOR ✦

One of the things we think about this time of year is all of the gifts we need to give or want to receive. People want to know what we want for Christmas and drop hints as to what they want. Yet when you stop and think about it most of us really do not need, or for that matter want, that much for Christmas. I know I do not really need another thing but what I want is love, joy and peace. For me it is those things that make Christmas so special because they are part of the greatest gift we have received from God in Jesus Christ. Now I am not going to get into a rant about how we need to change our celebrations, but I would like to suggest that we focus our actions a little differently this Christmas. I would like to suggest we look for ways to give love, joy and peace with all that we do. This means that we will have to be a little more creative in our gift giving and that may take more time. Instead of quickly checking people off our lists, how about finding some people who could use a little bit more of Christmas this year.

Here are some things that I was thinking about as ways of giving love, joy and peace to others around us.

- Find ways to spend time with friends and family doing things you actually enjoy. (I hate gift exchanges but love singing songs together and getting a chance to visit with people.) Maybe we have been busy with the wrong things if all we get out of the holidays is more stress.
- Make an extra effort to help an elderly friend or neighbor with a task like decorating (remember to help cleanup as well) or shopping.
- Visit or call someone you have not seen for a while.
- Help a young family by babysitting so they can go shopping.
- Give something to someone who actually needs something.
- Give a little patience to the person in a hurry. Let them go in front of you in line. This is especially helpful for the young parent with impatient children or the elderly who have trouble standing for long periods.
- Say thank you to those who serve you and let them know you appreciate their efforts.
- Make every effort to enjoy Christ's presence in this season. Celebrate the Birth of our Savior and be bold about it.

Most of all remember how much we have been given in Jesus Christ. We cannot out-give God but we can share a little more of his love each day. If Jesus is the reason for this season, bringing a little more of him into it cannot only bring his love, joy and peace to this world, it can bring it to our lives as well.

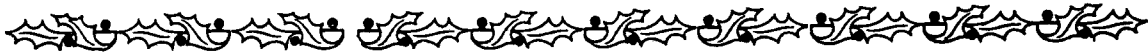
Pastor Jim

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



The Council met, November 14th for it's regular meeting. We reviewed finances, stewardship responses and the budget for 2013. It was decided to wait a while before agreeing on a final budget so a special Council meeting was set for between the services on November 25th. We planned for December events and talked about January's Faith, Food & Fun which will be an Epiphany celebration with a Chili Cook-Off. We also talked about participating in the Cancer Relay For Life on March 23, 2013. Penny Henriksen will take the lead on this for us and we will be looking for people to help.

The next Council meeting will be the annual Christmas Dinner meeting on Wednesday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

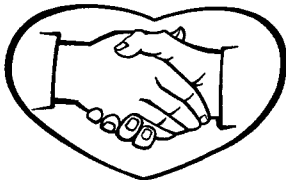
Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child. We packed 77 boxes and they are on their way to children around the world! We know these boxes will touch the lives of the children who receive them! We will be packing shoeboxes again next year so you can start saving shoeboxes and picking up gift items now – check out the Christmas and after-Christmas sales! Thank you for your participation and support!!!



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

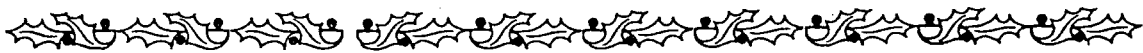
Please join in welcoming two new members to our church family! Carrie Forster and Theresa Wood officially joined the Calvary congregation on Sunday, November 25. Please keep them in your prayers and make them feel welcome. Be sure to add their information to your Church Directory to help keep it up to date.

Welcome New Members



Carrie Forster
1240 Hillcrest Dr.
Morro Bay, CA 93442
772-1630

Theresa Wood
491 Little Morro Creek Rd.
Morro Bay, CA 93442
400-7851



ANNUAL MEETING, PART 1

Annual Meeting, Part 1 will be held on Sunday, December 2nd at 10:00 a.m. (between worship services). Church officers will be elected, the Budget for 2013 adopted, and Trust Fund expenditures approved. We urge you to be present for this important meeting.



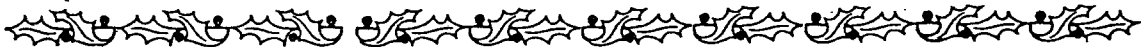
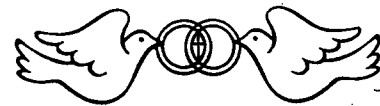
DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Margaux Dyson
- 3 Bert Harris
- 5 Cindy Haener
- 6 Sheryl Barker
- 8 Gloria Givens
- 9 Andrea Sumter
- 10 George Tway
- 11 Sharron Jackman
- 12 Brenda Pool, Ina Davenport
- 15 Debbie Chrismen
- 17 Ron Forster, Alexander McKee
- 18 Ken Brocks



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 17 Bruce & Cindy Haener, 35 years
- 28 Gary & Cindy Lee, 27 years
- 29 Burnell & Marjorie Monroe, 51 years



**WE ARE
PRAYING
FOR...**

PRAYER LIST

Bert Harris, on the death of his wife, Dorothy, after almost 72 years of marriage
Eileen Orback, undergoing treatment for early stage breast cancer
Carrie Forster and Theresa Wood, joined Calvary on Sunday, Nov. 25
Phyllis Berg (Pastor Jim's mother), cancer
Riley Folk (14 year old grandson of John & Melanie Bachman), diagnosed with leukemia
Betty Olson, continuing health issues
That we would have daily opportunities to perform acts of love in Jesus' name
That we would all find ways each day to help encourage our faith to grow
That our church would truly be a welcoming place for all who visit and for all who would like to join us
Resolution and Peace for Israel and all of the Middle East
Safety for our military personnel, especially those overseas and away from home
That the Lord would turn the hearts of the whole world toward Him and that everyone would worship
Him as their Lord and Savior

If there is anyone you would like to add to this list, please call the church office at 772-8457.

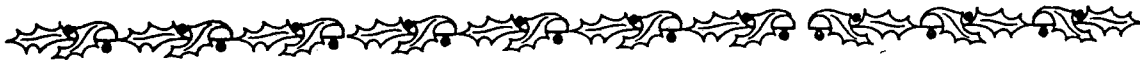
FAITH, FOOD & FUN

DECEMBER FAITH, FOOD & FUN will be on Sunday, December 2nd at 5:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. The theme will be "Preparing for the Coming Baby" and we will be singing Christmas Carols and having a Christmas Cookie Exchange. Dinner will be potluck with everyone bringing their favorite potluck dish and at least 3 dozen cookies for the exchange.



JANUARY FAITH, FOOD & FUN will be on Sunday, January 6th at 5:00 p.m. The theme will be "Let's Celebrate Epiphany!". There will be a chili cook-off so bring your best chili and a dish to go with it.

Please plan on joining us and be sure to invite your family, friends and neighbors as well!



10th ANNUAL "AWAY IN A MANGER"

Saturday, December 8th from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

An open house and display of over 300 nativities from all over the world

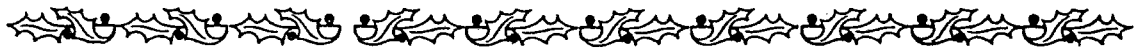
We are planning to once again host this special Christmas outreach called "Away In A Manger". In order for this to work we need YOUR help.

Some of the things we need are:

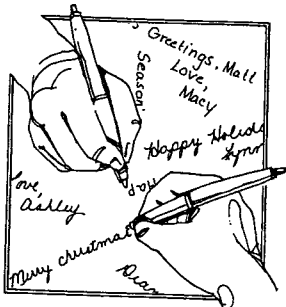
- * Set up and Clean up Crews
- * Nativities to display – at least one from every family would be fabulous!
- * Cookies and Christmas Treats
- * Greeters (Hosts and Hostesses)
- * YOU to invite your friends and neighbors AND to be there to welcome them!



This needs to be an all-Calvary effort! If you are willing to help, please talk to Sharron Jackman at (528-0991), or call the church office (772-8457). Mark your calendars now, invite your friends, and volunteer to make it a success. We know there are many events during this busy season – but how many of them focus on the TRUE meaning of Christmas?



CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARD



Again this year the Sunday School children will be offering a large Church Christmas Card for the congregation. For a donation you can write a greeting and sign your name on the large, decorated card. This way you will be able to greet all your Calvary friends, save postage and cards, and help out the Sunday School Peli-Can Project all at the same time! We'd love everyone to participate! Please put your donation in the decorated can and sign the card in the entryway. Merry Christmas and may we all remember that God's love is the true gift of Christmas!

We offer to God



GIVING AT YEAR END

The end of the year is an opportune time to be reminded of commitments made during the year. Sometimes we forget about a gift we wanted to make; a special gift to the ministries of the church, a memorial or an honor gift through the church for someone special, or even a completed commitment to the general ministries of the church. Now is the time to make that gift if you want to include it in your charitable deductions for tax purposes this year. Year-to-date contribution statements will be available in the entryway on Sunday, December 2nd to help you with your tax deduction and charitable gift planning. Gifts must be in the offering by December 30th or sent to the church office postmarked by December 31 to be counted in your 2012 giving.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

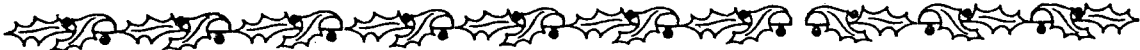
On Sunday, December 16th we will be having ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:00 a.m. As part of that worship service the Sunday School will be presenting their Christmas Program. The worship service will be followed by a potluck holiday brunch. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for worship that morning. Come prepared for a morning of fun and fellowship!



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



We would like to have a profusion of poinsettias to help set the mood for Christmas season worship services. If you would like to help provide one of the plants to decorate our worship space, please sign-up as the list is passed in church or call the church office (772-8457). Cost for the poinsettias this year will be \$6.00, and the money should be placed in your regular offering envelope with "flowers" marked on the outside.



LOCAL HUNGER REPORT

"Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love."
~Hamilton Wright Mabie

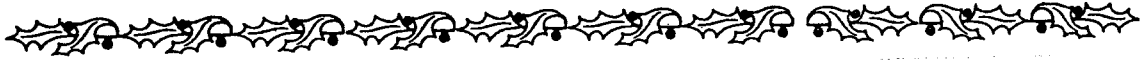
Thank you for your donations to the Local Hunger Box this last month. There were quite a few grocery and personal hygiene items. We are making a special plea for everyone to remember the local hungry during this holiday time. There are many more people than usual in need of help this time of year and picking up a little something extra while you are out shopping is a good way to help out. The Local Hunger Box will be out in the entryway on the first Sunday in December as a reminder, but you may bring donations at any time and place them in the hunger box in the cabinet in the entryway. You can also put a donation in your offering envelope and mark it "Local Hunger". Thank you for your generosity!





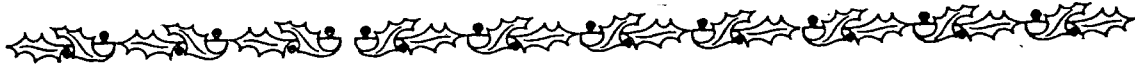
2013 FLOWER CHART

The 2013 flower chart is now posted in the back of the sanctuary. Cost for providing altar flowers is \$30 per week. If you would like to help provide altar flowers for a Sunday be sure to sign up soon! Flowers may be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. worship service and may be dedicated to any occasion or person by calling the church office or filling out the little card available on the bulletin board by the chart. Thank you!

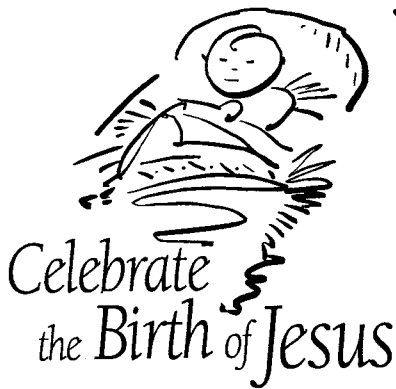


NEW OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for 2013 will be available in the entryway in early December. Please pick up your labeled envelopes and PLEASE use them whenever possible when giving your offerings to Calvary. This makes it easier for you to keep track of your giving and for our offering counters to give appropriate credit for contributions. If you would like to have offering envelopes and do not find a labeled set on the table, please call the church office (772-8457) to request them.



JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

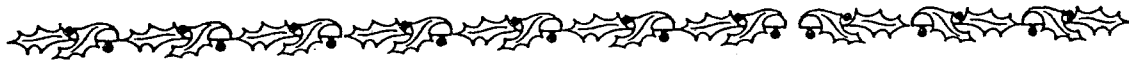


Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24th

⌘ 5:30 p.m. Contemporary Candlelight Worship Service with Holy Communion
Music will be led by our worship team: Spirit's Voice.
Child care is provided.

⌘ 8:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Worship Service with Holy Communion
Music will be provided by our organist, Ina Davenport on the pipe organ.

Invite your family, friends and neighbors and join us for worship on this holy night!



DECEMBER 30TH WORSHIP NOTE

On Sunday, December 30 there will be a single lay-led worship service at 10:30 a.m. Music will be provided by our organist, Ina Davenport. Please be sure to attend.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

In November we spent some time with our Prayer Pals on Prayer Pal Sunday. We hope everyone has had a chance to talk to their Prayer Pals and spend some time with them. We also hope you enjoyed the pumpkin pie! We should have a busy, happy month of December as we celebrate Advent and Christmas. Time will be spent practicing for the Christmas Program and presenting it. Thank you to Nikki Rocha and Gail Brochtrup for taking charge of the program for this year. On Sunday, December 23 we will have a "Happy Birthday Jesus!" party so come prepared to celebrate!!!

Sunday, December 2nd

Story: Mary & Joseph

Craft: Colored Nativity Scenes

Sunday, December 9th

Story: Shepherds and Angels and Sheep, Oh My!

Craft: Cone shepherds, angels, and sheep

Sunday, December 16th

10:00 One Worship Service including the S.S. Christmas Program

11:00 Holiday Potluck Brunch

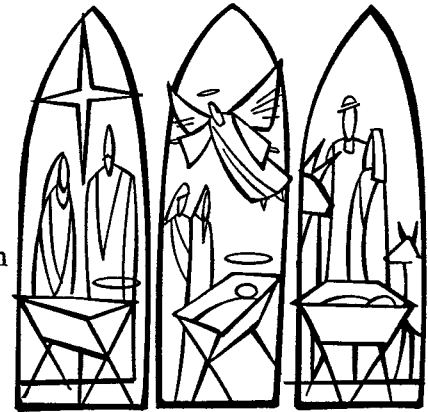
Sunday, December 23rd

Story: Happy Birthday Baby Jesus!

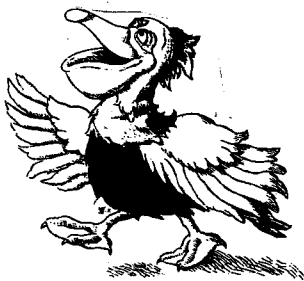
Craft: Party Hats followed by a Birthday Party for Jesus

Sunday, December 30th

No Sunday School



We wish you all a wonderful Christmas filled with family and friends, hope and love!



PELI-CAN STEWARDSHIP PROJECT NEWS

Peli would like to thank everyone who has helped out and supported the Peli-Can Stewardship Project all year long. Thank you for bringing your offerings to Sunday School, filling your Ark Banks, bringing your recycling, filling shoeboxes, and making special donations. Right now you can also help by signing our big Church Christmas Card in the entryway of the church, and putting a donation in the decorated can. All of this allows our students to learn about being stewards all year long and helps us support Periya through Compassion International, help families through Heifer International, and bring joy to children in third world countries through Operation Christmas Child.

This world needs God's love so badly, we hope we are not only reaching out to those who need help, but also teaching the Sunday School students to share the blessings God has entrusted to them during their whole lives.

■ Peli-Can wishes you all a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR DECEMBER

Sunday, December 2 – First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36

Sunday, December 9 – Second Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4 Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6

Sunday, December 16 – Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18

Sunday, December 23 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

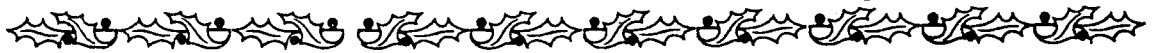
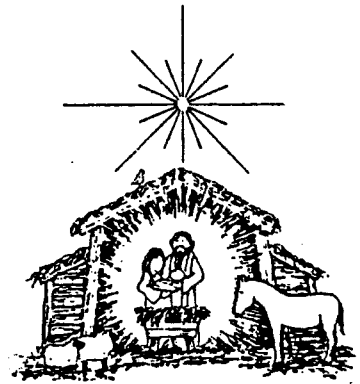
Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:46b-55
Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45

Monday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7 Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-20

Sunday, December 30 – First Sunday of Christmas

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

<u>Date</u>	<u>9:00</u>	<u>S.S.</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Notes</u>
11/4	19	8	26	53	Pastor Jim & Nancy in Israel
11/11	28	7	34	69	
11/18	31	12	29	72	
11/25	37	13	32	82	



STAFF:

Pastor - James D. Berg
Office Secretary - Nancy Berg
Worship & Music Director – Nancy Berg
Organist – Ina Davenport
Janitors – Debbie and Jennifer Chrismen
Groundskeeper – Mark Orback
Nursery Attendant – Aldina Dunn

2012 COUNCIL OFFICERS:

President – Alice Kolb
Vice President – Joyce Bauer
Secretary – Janet Lorenzo
Treasurer – Gary Lee



SAINTS IN SERVICE

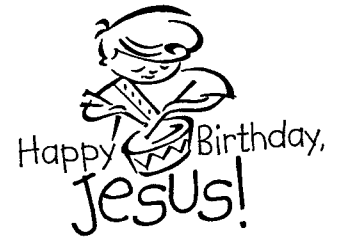
<u>Readers</u>	9:00	10:30
Dec. 2	Arleigh Snyder	Jerre Sumter
9	Randy Schuldt	Jim Henriksen
16	10:00 Worship Service only – Joe Hoeflich	
23	Bill Olson	Cindy Lee
30	10:30 Worship Service only	Earl Warke



<u>Greeters</u>	9:00	10:30
Dec. 2	The Muff Girls	Fred Cook, Gloria Givens
9	Scott McCorkhill	Jim & Penny Henriksen
16	10:00 Worship Service only – Scott McCorkhill	
23	Scott McCorkhill	
30	10:30 Worship Service only	Earl Warke

<u>Communion Assistants</u>	9:00	10:30
Dec. 2	Joe Hoeflich, Bill Olson, Kara Kolb	Andrea & Jerre Sumter
16	10:00 Worship Service only – Joe Hoeflich, Bill Olson, Kara Kolb	

<u>Clicker Operator</u>	9:00	10:30
Dec. 2	_____	Gary Orback
9	_____	Mel Brenneise
16	10:00 Service only – Gary Orback	
23	_____	Mel Brenneise
30	10:30 Worship Service only	Mel Brenneise



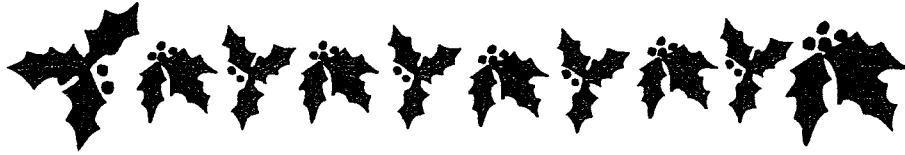
<u>Fellowship Host</u>	9:00	10:30
Dec. 2	The Muff Family	_____
9	Nancy Padilla, Cindy Haener	Fred Cook
16	10:00 Service Only followed by a Holiday Potluck Brunch	
23	Alice Kolb / Sunday School	Audrey & Carrie Forster
30	10:30 Worship Service only	Frauke Chaffee

<u>Altar Guild</u>	Set Up	Clean Up
Dec. 2	Eileen Orback, Scott McCorkhill	Belva Wiese
16	Joyce Bauer, Sharron Jackman	Frauke Chaffee

<u>Altar Flowers</u>	
Dec. 2	_____
9	Brenda Pool
16	Ina Davenport
23	Poinsettias
30	Poinsettias



December 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																																						
	<p><u>Worship Schedule</u> 9:00 Contemporary Worship 10:30 Traditional Worship</p>		<p><u>Holy Communion</u> Dec. 2, 16 & 24</p>		<p>*To Be Remembered in Prayer</p>	<p>1 9:00 Worship Team Rehearsal 10:30 Finance Committee Mitg.</p>																																																																						
<p>2 10:00 Annual Meeting, Part 1 5:00 Faith, Food & Fun</p>	<p>3 *Mary & Karen Vail</p>	<p>4 10:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>5 2:00 Organ Tuning *The Warke Family</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 7:00 "Away In a Manger" set-up *Marian Warkentin</p>	<p>8 <u>Away In a Manger</u> 9:00 Set-up 9:00 Worship Team Rehearsal 1:00 - 4:00 Open House</p>																																																																						
<p>9</p>	<p>10 *Belva Wiese</p>	<p>11 10:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>12 6:30 Council Christmas Dinner Meeting *Dodie Andersen</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 *John & Melanie Bachman</p>	<p>15 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 Worship Team Rehearsal</p>																																																																						
<p>16 10:00 Worship with Sunday School Program 11:00 Potluck Holiday Brunch</p>	<p>17 *Sherie Barker</p>	<p>18 10:00 Bible Study</p>	<p>19 *Tom & Joyce Bauer</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 *The Berg Family</p>	<p>22 9:00 Worship Team Rehearsal</p>																																																																						
<p>23</p>	<p>24 <u>Christmas Eve</u> Worship Services 5:30 & 8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>25 Happy Birthday Jesus!!!</p>	<p>26 Pastor Jim & Nancy on vacation - Office closed *The Borchard Family</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 *Mel & Georgia Brenneise</p>	<p>29</p>																																																																						
<p>30</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve *The Brochtrup Family</p>				<p>November</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table>					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		<p>January</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
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