STEEPLE

NOVEMBER 2023

A Monthly Newsletter of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mount Horeb





A family in faith, reaching out to share God's love with all people

WELCOME

ELC of MOUNT HOREB

We welcome all to ELC. Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE AT ELC

Holy Communion Celebrated 1st & 3rd Sundays at all services. SATURDAY: 5:00 pm- (in Chapel) Modified Traditional Worship SUNDAY 9:00 am Blended Service Pre-recorded online worship available: www.elcmthoreb.org/home/worship/sermon-archive/ or listen to Sunday service "live" on your phone 855-514-2017 MORNING DEVOTIONS by Pastor John on the ELC Facebook page at 8am Monday through Saturday

ELC'S STAFF

Pastor John Twiton

Intern Zach Smirris

Accompanists: Ruth Heinecke, Barb Underwood

Agape Preschool Director: Amy Kellesvig

Bell Choir Director: Kristin Willcutt

Custodian: Brian Johnson

Junior Choir Director: Barb Underwood

Music Team Leader: Barb and Chris Underwood

Office Manager: Nancy Voss

Organist/Senior Choir Director: Diane Dangerfield

Youth Director: Brenda Martin

A Note from PASTOR JOHN All the Saints

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love^{*} towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. – Ephesians 1:15-16

Each year we pause on the first Sunday in November to remember all the saints. Immediately our thoughts go to the white candles on the altar which signify those from our church family that have passed away in the last year.

The memories of those dear friends are bittersweet. We are thankful for their presence in our lives, but we mourn their absence. It is a good thing to share both the joy and the loss those memories bring. But I would suggest that we might spend at least as much energy on the red candles – those which we light in honor of the new lives of those baptized in the past year. Notice that when Paul wrote to the Ephesians about the love toward the saints, he wasn't just talking about those who have died. Saints are the living, breathing people who make up this body of Christ.

We need to dedicate ourselves each year to the nurture of those who are coming to the faith, and even more to see that there are more and more red candles each year – signifying a growing, vital church family. They won't simply be the infants born into earthly families. We need to be reaching out to our community. Investing in the lives of the people who surround us. Sharing the love that has sustained the saints before us, so that it will sustain another generation.

Paul concludes the passage with this hope; "I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power."

Ephesians 1:17-19

Pasto Joh Time

Pastoral Intern – ZACH SMIRRIS Is Change Good or Bad?

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God

~~ Revelation 21: 1-2~~

From my office window I have been able to watch the leaves slowly change over the last two months. At first, the very tips of the highest leaves were the barest hint of red, but now the gradient has shifted downwards, bringing browns and yellows to join the reds and greens together. Can you tell that Autumn is my favorite season yet?

One of the main reasons I love this season is because of how much change there is. Change, for me, is a delightful thing. Leaves, temperatures, flavors, and scents all change, and that's just perfect for someone like me. Change means that there are new things to discover and explore, and it gives a chance to celebrate the differences and growth.

But I also know that change can be scary. New seasons bring unknowns, uncertainties, and a feeling of being unprepared for what's ahead. We shift our liturgies with the seasons, and it's uncomfortable to not be able to sing along without watching the slides for some. For just a moment, I would like you all to consider how you react to change. Is it frightening for you? Is it joyful? Once you've identified how you feel, embrace it! Change is change, and we do not have to give it a label of good or bad. It can simply be.

God's peace be with you all, my friends.

Zach Smirris Pastoral Intern, ELC of Mt. Horeb internzach@elcmthoreb.org

AGAPE

Autumn greetings from Agape,

The month of November will have the students learning about farms, farm animals, tractors, and Thanksgiving. Teaching the children about ways to give thanks is always a special treat for the teaching team! We look forward to holding parent – teacher conferences in early November so we can get to know our families. As the cooler weather arrives, the teachers will include lessons about putting on all our warm weather layers so we can continue to have fun playing outside!

The board recently wrapped up the Sweepstakes fundraiser. Keep an eye out for prize winners in the weekly church bulletin and the December newsletter. A big thanks to everyone who participated!

The teachers, board of directors and myself are so thankful for your continued support of the preschool and its ongoing ministry.

Blessings and Happy Thanksgiving, Amy Kellesvig, Director 608-437-7100

Upcoming dates:

Nov 20 4K Monday – 4K Students attend school. Nov 22 - 24 No 3K or 4K preschool classes; Closed for Thanksgiving Break

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15 am - 11 am - (3 years old - 8th grade) - Join us for Bible stories, music, games, and snacks. We begin in the chapel.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TO SING - Join us on November 12th, during our worship service at 9 am, to hear our youth share two songs they love!

7th & 8th GRADE CONFIRMATION- Our 7th & 8th graders meet together each Wednesday, (7 - 8:30 pm). No Confirmation class on Nov 22nd for Thanksgiving.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NOV 12th, 10 - 11 am - We need a few 7th & 8th graders to help lead our Sunday School youth on Nov 12th. (Supervising simple crafts, snacks and movie.) This allows for our teachers who are voting members, to attend the Annual Meeting.

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS Cont.

"AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM" - Congratulations to our Confirmands who celebrated their 'Affirmation of Baptism' on Reformation Sunday, October 29th. Youth who were confirmed:

Aiden Aeschlimann	Kayla Bredeson
Adrienne Hogseth	Eve Kellesvig
Michael Powell	Ben Rothamer
Melaina Tetzlaff	Addison Watson

WE ARE REGISTERED - In October, we registered 22 youth and 6 adults to attend the Youth Gathering in New Orleans, 2024. An exciting opportunity for everyone's faith journey.

FUSE NIGHT (Youth Gathering Edition) - 8th - 12th graders are welcome

to join us on Nov 19th, 7 pm in the youth room. We will focus on discovering more about the Youth Gathering theme, "Created to Be: Authentic". Youth attending the Gathering are expected to attend.



BUCKY BOOKS -LAST DAY on Nov 12th -



Bucky Books are available through November 12th! Pick up a copy after worship, or contact Brenda. Each book sells for \$35.00. Funds raised will help our youth to attend the Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT/KIDS NIGHT OUT at ELC -

Nov 17th, 5:30 pm -8 pm at ELC: Our experienced high school youth will be offering a night of games, crafts, and treats for youth ages 3 years through 5th grade at ELC.

Donation: \$10 per child and \$5 for additional children (family rate). Funds raised will support our youth to attend the Youth Gathering in New Orleans in 2024. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend. Sign up with the link or QR code. https://forms.gle/TcNT9sL9ahZBxsMH6



CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS Cont.

CRAFTS BY NICK - Nick's Crafts are available for purchase in Fellowship Hall. There are many decorative items for fall. Thank you to Nick for donating to our youth opportunities.

ABC' BAGS (VOLUNTEER NEEDED) - Looking for a volunteer to maintain our ABC bags. Our Activity Bags for Children are used during the Worship services. Contact Brenda if you are interested in helping.

Brenda Martin, Youth Ministries Director brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org

FRIDAY NIGHT MAGIC AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Everyone between the ages of 18-35 is invited to join a casual afternoon of Magic: The Gathering - Commander format hosted by Intern Zach. We will meet Fridays 5:30-7:30 pm weekly! No experience is necessary, we will teach and provide the decks!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Prepared October 6, 2023

As of September 30, we had \$1,284 in the general fund and outstanding liabilities of \$6,307, resulting in a general fund deficit of \$5,023. To help cover the difference, we have shifted some expenses to relevant designated funds, including music and utilities costs for the internship program. This is a way of accomplishing the council's direction to use the designated funds to cover our general-fund shortfall, but of course it does not resolve the underlying gap between our income and our expenses. Our general fund has lost \$23,228 since the start of the year.

In happier news, the mortgage will have one partial payment remaining after the October payment, and we have a donor who has volunteered to fund the payoff. The mortgage will be retired in time for the annual meeting!

Designated fund expenses this month included \$397 for utilities from the intern fund, and \$178 for music. Income included \$198 for youth, \$120 for the internship, and \$109 unspecified. Building fund expenses of \$405 went to Ball Electric for the installation of the new phone network.

Respectfully submitted by Ben Brothers, October 6, 2023

TREASURER'S REPORT Cont.

BALANCE SHEET	9/30/23	8/31/23	12/31/22
General Fund	\$ (5,023)	\$ (3,034)	\$ 18,205
Mortgage Fund	\$ 384	\$ 201	\$ 4,566
Building Capital Fund	\$ 22,514	\$ 22,456	\$ 23,201
Designated Funds	\$ 134,203	\$ 133,596	\$ 134,727
Mortgage	\$ (4,791)	\$ (8,769)	\$ (41,933)
TOTAL	\$ 147,287	\$ 144,450	\$ 138,766

CASH FLOW	Se	eptember 2023	YTD 2023
General Fund Income	\$	25,319	\$ 242,204
General Fund Expenses			
Personnel	\$	21,166	\$ 174,877
Mission and Outreach	\$	1,917	\$ 18,351
Congregational Life	\$	965	\$ 14,635
Facilities and Administration	\$	3,261	\$ 57,569
Total General Fund Expenses	\$	27,309	\$ 265,432
Net General Fund Gain (Loss)	\$	(1,990)	\$ (23,228
Other Income			
Benevolence	\$	1,669	\$ 10,447
Building Capital Fund	\$	463	\$ 9,156
Designated Funds	\$	427	\$ 18,220
Mortgage Fund	\$	3,822	\$ 33,508
Total Other Income	\$	6,381	\$ 71,331
Other Expenses			
Benevolence	\$	1,669	\$ 7,626
Building Capital Expenses	\$	405	\$ 9,843
Designated Fund Expenses	\$	3,061	\$ 20,075
Mortgage Repayment	\$	3,630	\$ 33,341
Total Other Expenses	\$	8,765	\$ 70,885
Net Gain (Loss) from Other Expenses	\$	(2,384)	\$ 445
NET GAIN (LOSS)	\$	(4,374)	\$ (22,783

BENEVOLENCE Addressing the Middle East humanitarian crisis

When the Social Action Ministry Team created the 2023 Benevolence Program schedule, we intentionally left November open, because a need often emerges through the course of the year.

The explosion of violence in the ongoing standoff between Israel and Hamas has created a massive humanitarian crisis that we don't expect to ease off anytime soon. So, Social Action has decided to focus this month's contributions toward Lutheran Disaster Response, which has a longstanding relationship with partners in the region.

Most notably, this includes the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and Augusta Victoria Hospital, which began operations in Jerusalem after the 1948 war that followed the establishment of Israel. Today, most of the patients served by AVH continue to be in social need and seeking life-saving specialized care.

We'll earmark our donations to be used exclusively in this region, amid this conflict.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has issued a letter of solidarity to Bishop Dr. Sani-Ibrahim Azar of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. In it, she writes,

"I encourage the people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to unite in prayer for the families of innocent civilians whose lives were lost, as well as pray for healing for all the injured, fearful and traumatized.

"I pledge our accompaniment and support to you as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and its ministries provide critical and timely assistance (psychological and otherwise) to those affected by this war."

Here's what you can do:

Pray: Please pray for people in the Middle East who have been impacted by the conflict. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.

Connect: To learn more about the situation and the ELCA's response, check the Lutheran Disaster Response blog on the ELCA website. Also, "like" Lutheran Disaster Response on Facebook, follow @ELCALDR on Twitter and follow @ELCA_LDR on Instagram.

BENEVOLENCE cont.

- Mail: Send a check to ELC and note "Benevolence" in the memo
- Online: Visit the ELC website and click "Give"
- Digitally: Download the VANCO MOBIL FAITH ENGAGEMENT APP, or text "Benevolence" to 608-400-0183 with the amount you wish to give.

On behalf of Benevolence,

Adam Mertz adammertz2@gmail.com

2023 LINEUP

January: Lutheran World Relief &Lutheran Disaster Response (\$702.00) February: Compassion International (\$646.42) March: ELC youth and summer programming (\$1485.32) April: Reconciliation in Christ (RIC) social justice programming (\$1083.92) May: Divine Savior, our sister church in Puerto Rico (\$995.35) June: Neighbors Helping Neighbors (\$930.92) July: Young Adults in Global Mission (\$1317.92) August: Lutherans United Against Disasters (\$827.41) September: Saba, International (\$1209.01) October: Accessible local health care: Our Lady of Hope Clinic in Middleton and Community Connections Free Clinic in Dodgeville TBD November: Lutheran Disaster Response – Middle East Crisis December: Madison Area Jail Ministry

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The 2023 Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates for open church positions. Additional nominations will be taken from the floor at the Annual Meeting on Sunday November 12th Following the service.

CHURCH COUNCIL (Up to 4 elected for 2-year terms)

> Dave Edwards Andy Mullendore Alie Grundahl

PERSONNEL (2 elected for 2-year term)

Jacob Festge

AUDIT COMMITTEE (1 elected for 1-year term)

Matt Anderson

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

(4 elected for 2-year term)

Ann Baumgartner Kate Hook Jody Morey Steve Mueller **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

(6 elected for 1-year term)

Helen Kahl Margie Kahl Kris Kiel DeLayne Krentz Sonya Wittmann

SYNOD VOTING MEMBERS

(3 adults elected for 1-year term)

Diane Bartz Jim Mavis Dan Sherven

SYNOD VOTING MEMBERS

(2 youth/young adult elected for 1year term)

HONORING OUR VETERANS

November 11, 2023 is Veteran's Day. We, at ELC, want to Honor the sacrifices our active military and veterans make and have made for our country in the name of freedom and democracy. Thank you for your service and sacrifices for the United States of America.

The following are active duty military serving our country at this time:

Kamryn Huseth	James Larson	Brynn
Lunaas		
Jack Lunaas	Craig Mortvedt	Grant Schult
	Wyatt Stamn	

The following are veterans from our congregation who have served our country:

Vaughn Ableman	Allan Bartz	David Baumgartner
Jerome Bell	James Collins	Daniel Edwards
David Edwards	David Field	David Flom
Don Gordon	Chris Hook	Jeff Hook
John Huseth	Richard S Johnson	Larry Kaletka
Paul Kellesvig	Kendall Kittleson	Scott Klassey
Wayne Knudson	Ken Landen	Brandon Lutz
Jim Mavis	Robert Schiefelbein	Jacob Slaney
Gerald Stamm	Marc Stamm	Kaleb Stapelmann
Steve Stensby	Irvin Steinhauer	Peter Strube
Jim Uptegraw	Delbert Warner	Jacob Warner



Our Veterans will be honored in our church services on Saturday, November 11th and Sunday, November 12th.

BLOOD DRIVE



Mount Horeb Community Blood Drive Evangelical Lutheran Church

315 E. Main

Friday, November 24, 2023 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Sponsor Code: MtHorebWl

Only the front door will be open

You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass for more information.



Come give blood Nov. 10-30 for an exclusive pair of Elf & Red Cross socks, while supplies last! Join us to celebrate the 20th Annivers ary of the film Elf and make giving blood a holiday tradition! © & TM New Line Productions, Inc. (s23)

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App © 2003 The American Violation (Por Const | 458001-05-Faid-RW

THE GIVING TREE NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS



The Giving Tree of Mt Horeb has become part of the Neighbors Helping Neighbors family! The Giving Tree has been running an annual throw blanket drive for many years which is again being held during the month of November at ELC and several other locations in Mt Horeb. The

throws are gifted during the Giving Tree's annual distribution of Christmas gifts to area residents, and any leftover blankets will be distributed during open hours at NHN's Clothes Closet in December.

There is a special need for throw blankets, which measure about 4 feet by 6 feet. That's a popular size because they're versatile, fit people of all ages, and are easy to store away in the summer.

Please bring blankets to the new Donation Station in the Narthex. NHN will also accept monetary donations to purchase blankets and other winter clothing and accessories. You can send checks to NHN at 102 E. Lincoln St Mount Horeb, WI, 53572.

Thank you for your continued support of NHN, which provides food, relief services and gently used clothing, footwear and bedding to our neighbors in need at no cost.

For more info on NHN,

visit mthorebneighbors.org, check out the Facebook page, email them at info@mthorebneighbors.org or call 608-437-6114.

HOLIDAY BLANKET DRIVE

This holiday you can make a difference by providing a small but important comfort!



MEMBERSHIP NEWS



PLEASE PRAY FOR Ingrid Hoerz, Dolores Kahl, Sara Kittleson, Helen Ladwig, Terri Naylor(Dennis & Mary Lokken's daughter), Linda Wahlgren, Pete Strube, Mary Greenlaw-Meyer (Vicky Rosenbaum's friend), John Scheele & family (Char Smith's Brother in Law) Linda Stoenner, Betty Tharp(Katie Zelle's grandmother), Ken Rabideau (Helen Ladwig's Brother in Law), Nick O'Connell, Paul Kerscher (Amy Thompson's Dad), Steve Mueller, Joyce Fargo, Alycen McKinney, Rick Gullickson (Brother of Mary Krantz), Cara Mavis, Amy Hall, Joan Schraepfer (Rita Schraepfer-Derke's Sister in Law), Todd Collins, Norm Hefty, Lincoln Kuhn, Brooklynn Kreul, Mary Jane Ellis (friend of Bonny Kellogg), Connie Peterson, Bonnie Bender, Ginger Quaderer (Diane Mueller's cousin), Delores Bryant, Makenzee Smith, Shirley Thompson, Brock Howe, Jeannie U'Ren, Mike Olson, Grace Aavang, Carol Johnson.

Our partner congregation IGLESIA EVANGÉLICA LUTERANA DIVINO SALVADOR (Divine Savior Lutheran Church) in Cataño, P.R

ANNUAL MEETING Sunday November 12th following the service at 10 am. A quorum of 75 is needed for the meeting. Please plan to attend!

BABY CAPS MAKERS will meet in the Faith Room Tuesday Nov. 7 and 21 at 9:30 a.m. If you don't have a current copy of the baby cap pattern that the hospitals are requesting, please contact ruthheinecke@gmail.com. They need caps, but are only accepting ones made following certain guidelines.

ELC SEWING LADIES SEWING DAYS are Thursdays from 9 a.m. to Noon in Fellowship Hall



MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 am on Zoom. Contact Pastor John for the link.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS cont.



ELC COFFEE TIME Wednesdays at 10am in Fellowship Hall. A great time to connect with our church family

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, November 21st at 10 am in Fellowship Hall. We are doing Chapter 6 in Bad Girls of the Bible. Diane M. will bring treats and Helen K. will bring beverage

SARAH CIRCLE. will meet Tuesday, November 14, 7 pm in the Matthew Room at church. We will do the November Bible study from "Gather" magazine. Contact Connie Curran (curranconnie@hotmail.com) with any questions about the study materials or meeting details. Always welcoming new participants as well as those we haven't seen recently."



MONDAY-THURSDAY 9 AM - NOON & 1 PM-4 PM FRIDAY 9 AM - NOON

Nancy will be away from the office from Thursday November 9th through Monday November 13th.

The church office will be closed on Thursday & Friday November 23rd & 24th in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.



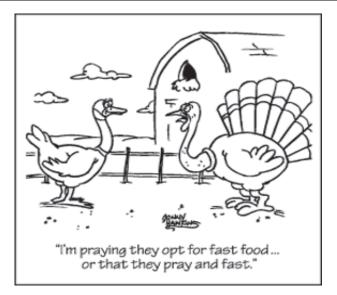
STEEPLE ECHOES ARTICLES DUE BY Thursday, November 16th for the December issue. (Early to avoid the Thanksgiving holiday)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED on Tuesday, November 21st to assemble the December newsletter. *Newcomers are welcome*. The assembly process usually takes about 2 hours. Please, come and enjoy the fellowship.

WORSHIP ASSISTANCE

THANK YOU FOR ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP If you are unable to fulfill your volunteer role on your scheduled date, please be sure to contact a substitute and let the church office (437-5012 or elc@mhtc.net) know by the Wednesday prior.

	NOV	NOV	NOV	NOV
	4&5	11 & 12	18 & 19	25 & 26
READERS	AVAILABLE Amy Sinner	Ann Baumgartner Debby Schneider	Bonny Kellogg Diane Bartz	Kate Hook Jim Cook
ACOLYTES	Josie Sailor Adelie Zwolanek	Carter Vesely Mason Dudley	Caleb Gaulke Lucas High	Eva Larson Jacey Morin
USHERS	TEAM 7 Shannon & Jim Hadac	TEAM 8 ? Jim Cook	TEAM 1 Jim Cook John Rosenbaum	TEAM 2 Mary & Wayne Knudson
ALTAR GUILD	D Jean Bower, Mary Lokken, Teresa Schult, Diane Twiton			
COUNCIL DUTIES	John Coffin			

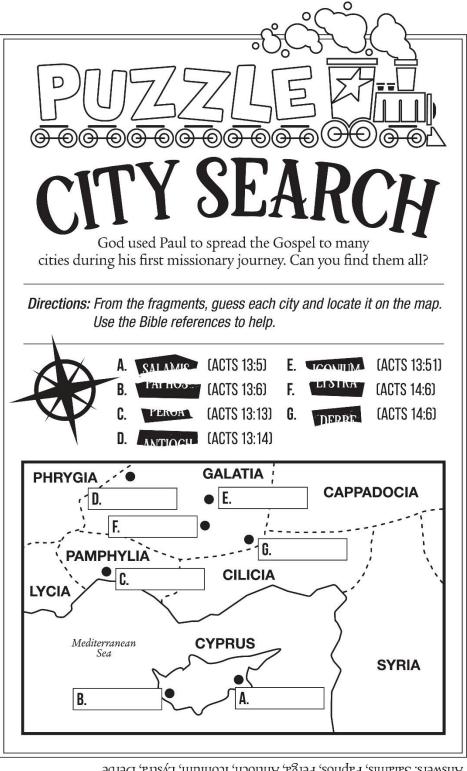




2 Eleanor	10 Mike	19 Jacob
Guenther	Hanson	Luttropp
Guenthei		20 Ron
Jody Morey	Ron Kellogg	Cushman
3 Madilyn	11 Brady	Custillian
Hadac	11 Brady McCue	Janice Warner
Hauac	Mccue	21 Susan
Tara Hogseth	Amy Sadowski	Koller
	12 Alan	22 Mary
Dolores Kahl	Fauque	Thompson
		23 Chris
Addison Malinowski	13 Tyrann Riechers	Laabs
Michael Vasen	lan Samuelson	Samuel Olson
		Samuel Olson
,	14 Ryan Bredeson	Linda Schroeder
Conrad	Bredeson	24 Daukan
Bailey Fischer	Jaxon Lutz	24 Parker
		Fargo 25 Charles
Todd Fritz	Lucas Schult	
	15 Jack	Friske
Jeri Huseth		26 Delaney
	Davis	Mertz
Brianna Walton	Helen Haroldson	27 Janet
		Ekenberg
6 Tanya	16 Joyce	Heidi Ford
Howe	Hanson	
Henry Knudson	Helen Ladwig	28 Reid
		Fargo
Brooklynn Kreul	17 Virgil	Polly Rosborough
	Haag	
Shayla Morin	Darlene Johnson	29 Dave
		Edwards
Jan Okeson	Paul Koller	Dawson Pasker
Harlan Olson	Noah Laabs	30 Rosann
		Field
7 Marlene	Cara Mavis	
Holum	17	

Steve Knuteson	18 Jacob	
	Festge	
Payton Schroeder	Bridget Krueger	
9 Brenda		
Martin		
Beth Scheele		
Delmar Siltala		
Travis Stamn		
	•	

If we've missed you or a member of your family, or if we've listed your birthday incorrectly, please contact the church office.



Answers: Salamis, Paphos, Perga, Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe