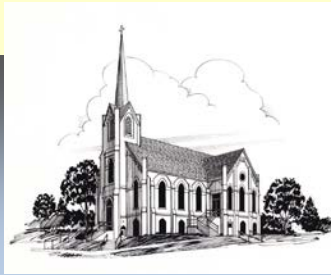


# THE SPIRE



September 2015  
Volume 3, Issue 8

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## Pastor's COLUMN

By Rev. Mark Eldal

The Christmas season is a special season of

Several Sundays this past summer featured lessons which spoke of Jesus as being the bread of life.

As the bread of life Jesus is the only one who can satisfy our souls and bring inner peace and fulfillment to our lives. He can live in us and dwell in our lives by faith; and as he does so he can be with us every moment and we can have close fellowship with him.

In addition, as the bread of life Jesus can give our lives meaning and purpose as we serve him; and he can give us life eternal.

Soon many of the ministries of this fellowship will begin again for the fall and the goal of these ministries will be that we be fed spiritually, as we experience Jesus as our bread of life.

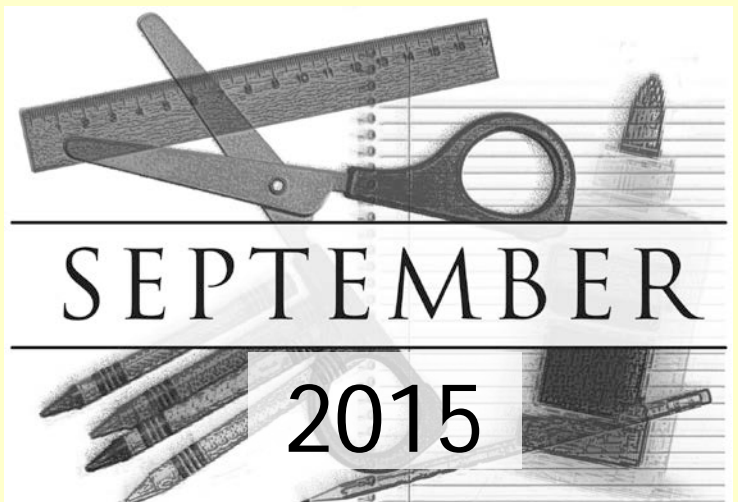
As we partake in these ministries may our souls be fed as we trust in Jesus.

God bless,

Pastor Mark

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### September 2015 Special Days

Some of the special days celebrated in September are:

- ☞ Labor Day — Sep 7
- ☞ Patriot Day — Sep 11
- ☞ National Grandparents Day — Sep 13
- ☞ First day of Autumn — Sep 23

## BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS



We welcomed into membership **Hayden Elizabeth Johanson** through holy baptism on Saturday Evening, July 25, 2015 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Her parents are Anthony and Melanie Johanson. Her sponsors are Chris and Stephanie Meierant. Hayden was born March 19, 2015. Her grandparents are Gary and Gail Elsasser and the late Scott Johanson. Her great grandparents are Don and Lura Johanson. **WELCOME Hayden!**

We welcomed into membership **Dean Franklin Johnson** through holy baptism on Friday Evening, July 24, 2015 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church. His parents are Jennings and Natalie Johnson. His sponsors are Jordan and Heidi Johnson and Justin and Kimberly Woltman. Dean was born May 5, 2015. His grandparents are Mark and Jill Johnson and Great Grandparents are Bonnie Goodrich and Frank and Janice Johnson. **WELCOME Dean!!**

We welcomed into membership **Anthony and Melanie Johanson** on July 25, 2015.

We extend our Congratulations and ask for God's blessing on **Kiley and Conrad Connealy** who were married Saturday, August 22 at First Ev. Lutheran Church. Kiley is the daughter of Jeff and Vicki Nelson and the granddaughter of Richard and Shirley Lowe and Roger and Dona Nelson. Conrad is the son of Dennis and Janis Connealy and the grandson of Joan Connealy. **CONGRATS KILEY AND CONRAD!!!**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF** is collecting donations for earthquake relief in Nepal. You can donate by mail to: Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061 or by Phone: 800-597-5972 (Please note NEPAL EARTHQUAKE FUND on your check.)

The First Evangelical Lutheran Church is looking to hire a part-time Media/Office Assistant with strong communication and organizational skills. The intern hired for this position will need to be familiar with social media tools and be willing to work with a team dedicated to outreach through the use of social media. If you are interested please contact Cheryl Denker.

Be sure to check out our bulletins board updates in the coming weeks for volunteering opportunities.

Confirmation begins at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2015. A letter has been sent to confirmands and their families regarding confirmation.

We are looking for additional head ushers.. if you would be interested please contact Norm Case.

Our Large Orange Drink Coolers are missing if anyone has borrowed them or knows where they maybe please contact Tess in the office. **THANK YOU!!**

We are looking for volunteers to refinish and properly install the hand railings on the stairs. If you would be willing to help, please contact Greg Ray, Jim Pelan or Sam Schmidt. Thank you!

Next month's artist of the month at the Swedish Heritage Center is Marilyn Tenny. They will be having a luncheon on Sunday, September 6 to celebrate. The luncheon is from 11am-1pm and is free will donation.

Choir resumes. If you would like to be part of this musical ministry, choir practice is every Wednesday, Sep 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm.



**FRIDAY NIGHT PUB.** We will be starting "the Pub" again September 4<sup>th</sup>, and will be for all home games. We are looking for volunteers to help us chaperone. Please contact Connie Larson (402)380-5101 or Tess Johnson (402)380-5660.



**Sunday School will be starting again on September 13<sup>th</sup> with a picnic in the Oakland Park at 11:00 a.m.** We will be grilling out and it will be a potluck celebration for the entire family. Drinks will be provided. In case of rain, the Kick Off will be moved to the church basement. Our first day of Sunday School in the classroom will be September 20<sup>th</sup>. All families welcome!!!

## THANK YOU's:

For the gift of their voices during the church services at morning worship ~

- ☞ Shanda Fujan on June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- ☞ Debbie Anderson on June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- ☞ Caleb Peterson on July 5<sup>th</sup>.
- ☞ Mona Tanksley on July 12<sup>th</sup>.
- ☞ Marilyn Peterson on July 26<sup>th</sup>.
- ☞ Mike & Mollie Blanc on August 2.
- ☞ Darrell Denker on August 9<sup>th</sup>.
- ☞ Gary Rosenboom on Sunday morning, August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- ☞ The Wallerstedt Trio on Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup>.



For the gift of their music during the church services at morning worship ~

- ☞ Brass County Quintet on June 28<sup>th</sup>

For leading the services~

- ☞ Gary Fugman on Saturday August 8 & Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup>.
- ☞ The Youth Group on August 30.

☞ Ruth Wallerstedt for so graciously lining up all our special music during the summer!!

☞ Dr. Charlie Seagren for donating the wooden chairs at the back of the church. These chairs will be for the Ushers at the back of the church.

## BIBLE STUDY NEWS

**NEW SUMMER YOUTH GROUP** will be meeting every Wednesday of the month from 7:00-8:30 pm. Snacks will be provided. It will open it to all current Junior High and Senior High school kids in the community. There will be sign-up sheet in the multipurpose room for anyone who wished to donate for the treats.

**Men's Bible Study** is on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

**Koinoina Bible Study** is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

### Growing Together - Small Group Dates



**Growing Together  
Bible Study Series**

We are continuing our trek through the book of Mark, studying how Jesus was rejected in his own hometown, sends the 12 out on their own to minister to surrounding communities, and Herod beheads John the Baptist. Marks shares the varying responses of people to Jesus' message -- flat out rejection, welcome, indifference, or interest, as long as it doesn't impact how they live. Many of these same responses we

experience today.

Our small group concentrates on taking what scripture says and learning to apply it to today. If you are interested in joining us, we meet at church for 1 hour on either Tuesday afternoons or Wednesday evenings. Our schedule for September is as follows:

- (Tues, 3:45) Sept 15 -- Mark 6:30-56
- (Wed, 7:00) Sept 16 -- Mark 7:1-37
- (Tues, 3:45) Sept 29 -- Mark 7:1-37
- (Wed, 7:00) Sept 30 -- Mark 8:1-26

### IN OUR PRAYERS OF CONCERN PLEASE

**INCLUDE:** Kedron Koehler, Darlene Husen, Bill Johnson, Bradley Nelson Warren Gregg (Sandy Husar's brother) Curley Nelson, Brian Meyer (Tom & Phyliss' Son), Sandy Abney (Hilda Benne's sister), Tara Wallesen, Sandra Johnson, Wilma Neitzke, Don Andersen, Landon Johnson, Lillian Mueller, Laurie Canarsky, Donna Johnson, Gary Rosenboom, Kaylee Fujan, Vernelle Nelson, Bill Dix, Allen Schrock, Charlie Ray, Rich Tomasek, Oliver Nimmo, Delwin Benne, Joseph Vandry, Grace Meints, The Family of David Swift, The Family of Chuck Rogers and all of our servicemen and women, our shut-ins and our youth ministry.



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 - Reg Linder
- 4 - Paxton Miller, Tate Penke, Danielle Pelan
- 5 - Curtis Johnson, Sandra Johnson, Jerri Case
- 8 - Linda Jones
- 9 - Judy Groene
- 10 - Casey Moseman
- 11 - Jason Penke, Britney Stevenson
- 12 - Luke Blanc, Ayden Lierman, Mildred Sandquist, Ava Rennerfeldt
- 13 - Chad Christofferson, Dr. G.E. Peterson,
- 14 - Julie Johnson
- 15 - Ed Hanna, Joshua Mulder, Jim VonEssen
- 17 - Karl Lundquist, Jayden Wobken
- 18 - Nicole Enstrom, Julie Lindstrom, Ben Wallace
- 19 - Lorna Olson, Adam Wallace
- 20 - Vicki Nelson, Samantha Popma
- 21 - Connie Peterson
- 22 - Suzanne Blanc, David Jones, Jim Nelson, Kenneth Pearson, Don Wallen, Preston Rost
- 23 - Larry Osterndorff, Judy Nelson, Cole Blanc, Barbara Ashton, Boyd Blomenkamp
- 24 - Jay Lindstrom, Ryan Peterson
- 25 - Jane Stucky, Bruce Anderson, Bobby Larson, Bruce Linden
- 26 - Lance Blanc, Mackenzie Kahlandt, Paula Stevenson
- 27 - Nancy Bromm
- 28 - Janna Kloth, Camryn Miller, Jovi Huntington
- 30 - Margarette Anderson, Candace Johnson, Blayke Olson

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 - Mike & Mattie Nelson
- 3 - Russell & Connie Peterson
- 5 - Mark and Jodi Peterson, Nathaniel & Betty Dixon
- 6 - Bill & Karen Ahrens, Harley & Vernelle Nelson
- 7- Bill & Judee Dix
- 9 - Don & Candace Johnson
- 17 - Roger & Elaine Peterson
- 19 - Bill & Sandra Johnson
- 23 - Dillon & Kelli Johnson
- 24 - Timothy & Sheri Slatt
- 27 - Lonnie & Denise Enstrom,
- 29 - Tony & Nancy Bromm, Chad & Elisabeth Linder
- 30 - Jeffrey & Judith Troupe, Tom & Phyllis Meyer
- 31 - Merlin & Rosemary Anderson



### July Attendance

5(No Sat Service)..94
11 & 12..... 121
18 & 19 ..... 141
25 & 26.....157

### August Attendance

1 & 2..... 106
8 & 9..... 135
15 & 16..... 128
22 & 24..... 147
29 & 30..... 225



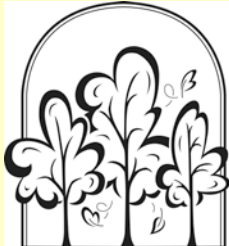

### July Finances

Commitments	\$12,473.08
Building Use	\$ 250.00
Supplies	\$ 241.75
Memorial	\$ 320.00
Misc.	\$ 123.57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$13,043.08</b>

### August Financials

Commitments	\$14,022.00
Building Use	\$ 75.00
Supplies	\$ 199.00
Memorial	\$ 120.00
Misc.	\$ 208.43
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,699.43</b>

# September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>9:30AM BINGO @ OAKLAND HEIGHTS</p> <p>7-9 P.M. YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00 PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>4</p> <p>LUTHERS PUB AFTER HOME FOOTBALL GAME</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:30PM COMMUNION SERVICE</p>
<p>6</p> <p>9:30AM COMMUNION SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00AM WOW EXECUTIVE MEETING</p> <p>LABOR DAY</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p> <p>7:00 PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9AM 2 PM, 6PM WOW GROUP MEETINGS</p> <p>6 - 8 P.M CONFIRMATION</p> <p>7-9 P.M. YOUTH GROUP</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00 PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>11</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>13</p> <p>9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>11:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF @ THE PARK</p> <p>NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS DAY</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP</p> <p>3:45PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>7-9 P.M. YOUTH GROUP</p> <p>7:00PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00 PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>20</p> <p>9:30AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>6:00 PM KOINONIA MEETING</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>23</p> <p>2:00 p.m. DORCAS SOCIETY @ O.H.</p> <p>6PM - 8:00 P.M CONFIRMATION</p> <p>7-9 P.M. YOUTH GROUP</p> <p>1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF AUTUMN</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00 PM N.A. MEETINGS</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:30PM WORSHIP SERVICE</p>
<p>27</p> <p>9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE</p> <p>10:30AM FELLOWSHIP</p> <p>2:30 PM DEVOTIONS @ O.H.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:30AM SEWING GROUP</p> <p>3:45PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>7:30PM A.A. MEETING</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7-9P.M. YOUTH GROUP</p> <p>7:00PM GROWING TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY</p>	 <p><b>First Day of Autumn</b></p>		 <p><b>Honoring Grandparents</b></p>



**First Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Oakland, Nebraska**

The church council met August 4, 2015 and President Cheryl Denker called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Also in attendance were Jim Pelan, Greg Johnson, Jon Seagren, Jan Wiltse, Sandy Husar, Rachel Wise, Sam Schmidt, Roger Moderow, Kylie Penke and Mona Tanksley. Pastor Eldal was also present. After devotions were given by Cheryl, Pastor gave his report for June and July activities. The minutes of the June meeting were read and a motion to accept them was made by Jon Seagren. Motion seconded by Sandy Husar and carried.

The financial report was not available at this time and once it is complete, it will be sent out to council members.

**The Evangelism Committee** met prior to this meeting and Rachel summarized their activities. Members will be encouraged to utilize the Right Now media that is available via the internet. Kylie reported on the youth gatherings that have been held during the summer noting that plans are for these to continue throughout the fall. A calendar of events will be posted on the bulletin board in the multipurpose room along with a sign-up sheet listing activities members may choose to volunteer to assist with. The committee is working on ideas to get the youth involved with church services.

Cheryl noted that Brian Bohn has agreed to once again be the choir director. Practice will resume September 9. We are looking to move forward with the sign-in tablets in the pews beginning this fall.

**The Property Committee** reported that a dehumidifier has been purchased to replace the one by the organ. It was reported that the sprinkler system has been installed northeast of the parking lot. It was noted that the lawn is being mowed weekly. Items needing attention around the building include the loose railing on the west, uneven concrete steps on the west, chipped paint on the exterior, some refinishing of hand railings, etc. A notice will be placed in the bulletin and the Spire to see if volunteers would be willing to help with some of these projects. Problems continue with the air conditioner and the fence surrounding it and we continue to seek a solution. Jim reported that he had met with Jason Parcel and discussed options for the television that we have talked about installing in the multipurpose room. Options for paying for it were considered. After discussion, a motion was made by Rachel to purchase a 60 inch television, an external DVD player and wiring using funds that are available from various sources. The motion was seconded by Greg and unanimously carried.

The council thanked Dan Tanksley for painting the lines on the street for parking spaces.

**Old Business:** The part time media specialist position is still available and the personnel committee will meet and discuss the hiring process. In other business it was noted that we will seed the lawn where needed.

**New Business:** Dr. Charlie Seagren has offered to donate four stools that will be available for use by ushers and the council graciously accepted this gift. It was noted that our two big orange drink coolers are missing. If they have been borrowed, please return to the church.

**Communion helpers:** August 8 - Arla Ogden  
September 5 - Arla Ogden

August 9 - Greg Johnson  
September 6 - Cheryl Denker

The next meeting will be September 8 at 7:30 p.m. with Sandy Husar doing devotions.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with Pastor leading the group in praying the Lord's Prayer.

Mona Tanksley, Secretary

# THIS MONTH USHERS

## September 2015 Ushers

6<sup>th</sup> : R. Moderow, N. Case,  
 13<sup>th</sup>: J. Nelson, N. Case, Merlin Anderson and Ed Anderson  
 20<sup>th</sup>: Dr. Seagren and N. Case, Jerry Benne and Tom Meyer  
 27<sup>th</sup>: C. Wiltse, N. Case, Mitch Case and Braeden Case

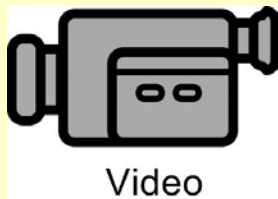


## September 2015 Greeters

6<sup>th</sup>:  
 13<sup>th</sup>: Connie Anderson and Rosemary Anderson  
 20<sup>th</sup>: Linda Carlson and Phyllis Meyer  
 27<sup>th</sup>: Michelle & Kyler Case and Hilda Benne



Sep 6- Wyatt Seagren  
 13- Jamison Johnson  
 20- Jared Mulder  
 27- Brady Jorgensen  
 Oct 4- Jacob Deemer



Sep 6 - Selena Johnson  
 13- Wyatt Seagren  
 20- Jamison Johnson  
 27- Jared Mulder  
 Oct 4- Brady Jorgensen



Sep 6 - Bryan Bohn  
 13- Billye Pearson  
 20 - Ruth Wallerstedt  
 27 - Bryan Bohn



Sep 6 - Dan Tanksley  
 13 -Tess Johnson  
 20 -Jim/Dan  
 27 -Jim Pelan

## COFFEE SERVERS

AnnaBelle Olson	402-685-5791	Sunday, September 06
Shirley Olson	402-685-6047	Sunday, September 06
Earlene Paulson	402-846-5692	Sunday, September 13
Kathy Pearson	402-380-1441	Sunday, September 13
Danielle Pelan	402 380-2121	Sunday, September 20
Sharon Peterson	402-685-6951	Sunday, September 20
Elaine Peterson	402-685-6963	Sunday, September 27
Cindy Blanc	402-685-5529	Sunday, September 27
Deanna Ray	402-685-5165	Sunday, October 04
Teresa Rogers	402-685-6263	Sunday, October 04

Thank you for your help in these important areas. If you can't be here, please find someone to take your place.





## JOAN MAGNUSSON AND JULIE EASTON - September



**SEWING MEETINGS** begin again on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting every Monday & Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Cleaning out the closets?? Or hitting the rummage sales and see some cheap bedsheets? The Sewing Group would love to have any old drapes, mattress pads, blankets, etc. They can use most anything!! All help is welcome, no one is turned away. **ESPECIALLY HELP TIEING... JUST REMEMBER ANYONE CAN TIE A KNOT!!!**



**Dorcas Society** September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Oakland Heights @ 2:00 p.m.



Sep 2.....Bingo @ O.H. 9:30 a.m.....Ruth  
 Sep 7 .....Executive Meeting 9 a.m.  
 Sep 9 .....Group Meetings 9 AM, 2 PM, 6 PM  
 Sep 27.....Devotions at O.H. @2:30 .....Hannah  
 Clean Kitchen .....Mary

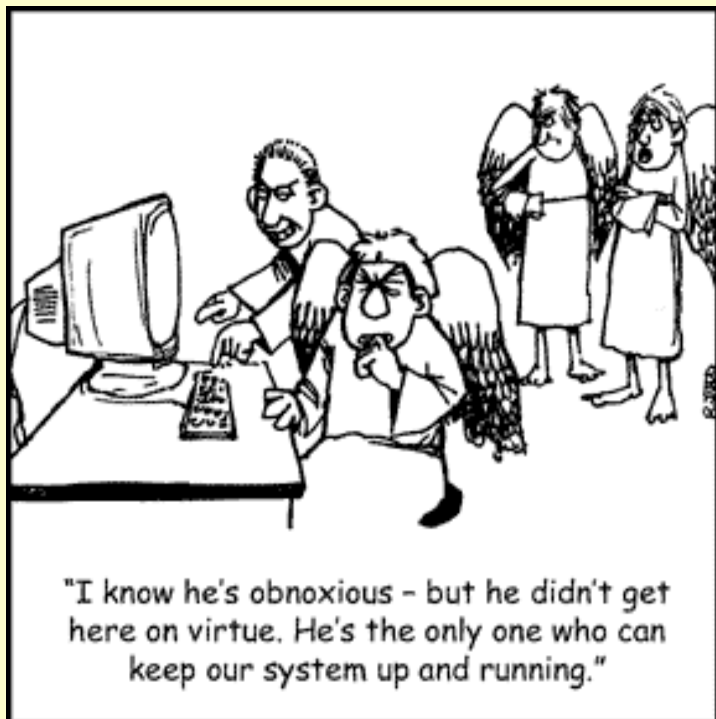
### REMINDER TO WOW GROUPS--- OUR PROJECT FOR THIS YEAR IS BABY CARE KITS.

These will be due November 1. Great time to take advantage of Garage sales and store sales too!! Include the following items in each Baby Care Kit: Two lightweight cotton t-shirts, Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet), Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square, Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred, One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, *or include a baby cap*, Two pairs of socks, One hand towel, dark color recommended, Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling up to 8-9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping, Two diaper pins or large safety pins.



- Please include sizes between 6 and 24 months. Varying the sizes of the clothing items included will make the Baby Care Kit useful as the baby grows.
- Sweaters may be knitted or crocheted from leftover yarn, or made from heavy double knits or fleece. Select a pattern that suits your skill level. Preferred styles have buttons or ties down the front.
- If knitting or crocheting receiving blankets, including one knitted/crocheted blanket and one flannel blanket will provide maximum versatility.
- Onesies can be cut and hemmed or serged to make a simple t-shirt.
- Gowns, rompers or top/pants sets can be substituted for sleepers.

# CHRISTIAN HUMOR TO TICKLE YOUR LIFE



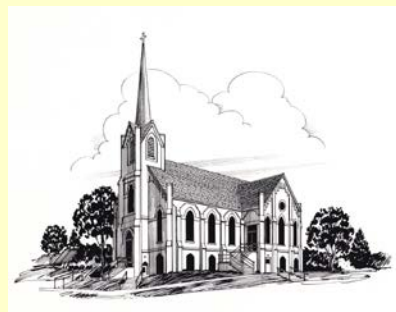
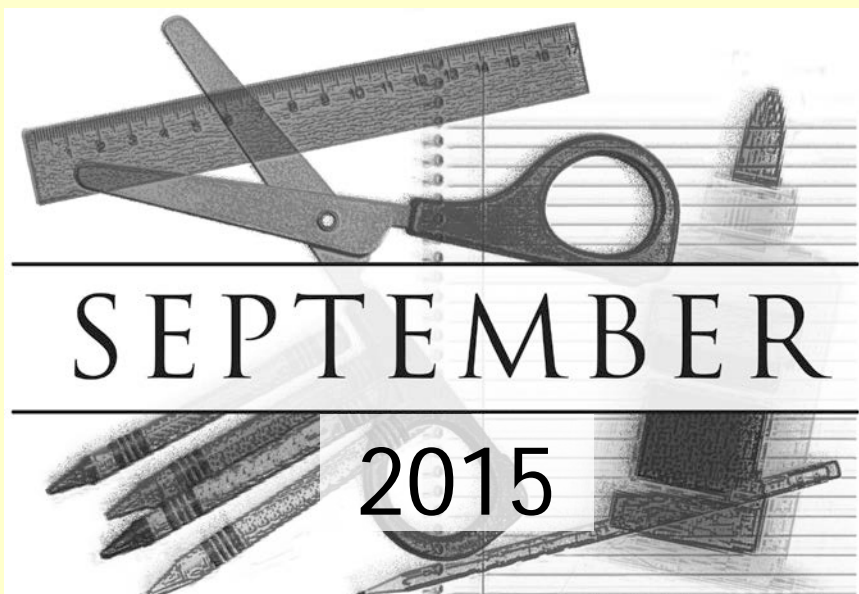
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We are committed to providing  
 spiritual enrichment to ALL who  
 seek the Lord.



*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.firstlutheran-oakland.com](http://www.firstlutheran-oakland.com)