



The Window

May 2019 Newsletter



Pastor : Michael McInnis: umcpastor@windomnet.com
Christian Education Coordinator : Robin Snyder umceducation@windomnet.com
Youth Leader: Robin Snyder umcyouth@windomnet.com
Treasurer: Jody Derickson umctreasurer@windomnet.com
Volunteer Coordinator: Becki Wormstadt umcvolunteer@windomnet.com
Nursery Coordinator: Tammy Crowell umcnursery@windomnet.com
Office Manager: Laura Williams umcoffice@windomnet.com

Is there a difference between being a “good person” and being a “Christian”?



Many people would probably say, “No—what’s the difference?” And even if you think there is a difference, can you say what that difference would be? How is being a Christian different than—something other than—being a good or moral person? How would you say they’re different?

Paul’s New Testament letter to the churches of Galatia was actually written to address this question—*and this misunderstanding of Christian faith.*

Like every New Testament letter, this letter was written to people who were first generation Christians; their grandparents were not Christians, their parents were not Christians—because Jesus had just died on the cross and been raised from the dead some 20-30 years before this letter was written!

So what’s the problem? The problem was that people were beginning to substitute “good moral behavior” for personal faith in Jesus Christ. Specifically in Paul’s day, many of these folks were falling back on the Jewish Law to try to be “good moral people” or “righteous” before God and therefore worthy of salvation. They were in danger of living by good works rather than faith in Christ’s gift of new life.

In our church (and churches) today, we can fall into this same trap. Even though we’re not first generation believers, it’s very easy for us to fall into “works righteousness”. As a matter of fact, it’s the most natural thing in the world—because we like to be in control, including in control of our salvation (through our good moral behavior). Then we can take credit for it. Then we don’t owe God anything (including worship and trusting in his grace and love).

Paul writes to the early church (and for us today) to help us remember that our Christian life isn’t about our performance—it’s about God’s gift of eternal life in Christ that we receive by faith. Paul also reminds us that we couldn’t live the Christian life if we wanted to—we are selfish sinners saved by grace!

So two themes run through Galatians that can set us free today: first, that we live “in Christ”, and second, that we walk “in the Spirit”. There is no other way to be “set free” and experience the life God has for us today!

I invite you to join me as we look at Galatians over the next 5-6 weeks, in a message series entitled “Free At Last!” I believe you will discover a new freedom “in Christ” that will break you out of old habits, hurtful thought patterns, and time wasting worry, and start you down a path of fruitfulness and rich living!

See you Sunday!

Pastor Mike



First United Methodist Church

Pastor Michael McInnis
974 6th Street, Windom MN 56101
507-831-3284
www.windomfumc.org

Office Hours
Monday—Friday 9am-noon and 1:00—4:00pm
Closed Holidays



Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend

8:30am Coffee Fellowship
9:00am Worship Service

Our summer worship schedule starts Memorial weekend. Our service will start at 9:00am May 26th through Labor Day weekend.



You are invited to come to our Friendly Fellowship at noon Tuesday, May 30th. The program will be provided by Linda Carruthers, our local HyVee's nutritionist. Just bring food to share and your questions for Linda, and join us for a great lunch!



Travelers (& Everyone!)

If you would like to receive weekly announcements while you are away—or year-round—, please contact the church office. Announcements are sent by email or by postal mail, as you like.



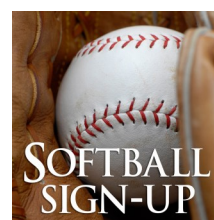
PRAY FOR OUR NATION

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord"
(Psalm 3:12)

National Day of Prayer—Thursday May 2



Prayer requests are sent to all who would like to participate as Prayer Partners, by email or telephone. Some prayer requests, such as a death in the congregation, are sent to everyone. If you aren't currently receiving all prayer requests, and would like to, please contact the church office.



2019 Softball!!

Are you ready for the softball season to get going? Our church softball team is a family team—children and adults are welcome.

Signup sheets will be available starting May 1 at the signup counter in the church lobby, or contact the church to have your name added.

The first ball game is usually the first Sunday in June. All are welcome!



Women's Luncheon 2019!

This year OBC welcomes Nicole Phillips. Nicole is a champion for using kindness to overcome all of life's difficulties. She spreads the message of the healing power of kindness as host of *The Kindness Podcast*, and through her weekly column, *Kindness is Contagious*. She is also the author of two books. Nicole lives in Athens, Ohio, has three children, and is married to Ohio University men's basketball coach, Saul Phillips.



EVENT DETAILS:

Wednesday, August 7, 1:00 pm
 Music by Aaron & Nikki Petersen
 Location: Arrowwood Resort, 1405 Highway 71 N, Okoboji, IA
 Tickets are \$20 each

If you would like to go to this event with a group from First UMC, please call our church office to reserve your spot by **Monday, May 20th**. Tickets typically sell out right away, so we'll need to get our order in early. The church van can transport 6 ladies; we'll go in the morning for activities there and return after the Luncheon. Please consider joining us this year!

Invitation to Ladies

Fairmont UMC
Salad Luncheon
Noon, Thursday May 2nd

Ladies are invited to the Salad Luncheon at Fairmont UMC.

The speaker is Chuck Rudolph with Youth For Christ and The Light House. Please RSVP to Connie at 507-236-5579.



Sunday, May 12 is a day to remember and honor the gift of all the Mothers in our lives. Thank you God for Mothers!

UMW May Calendar

Sat 4th Spiritual Growth Retreat—
 Advent UMC
 Tues 7th 9:30am Exec Meeting
 Wed 8th 3:30pm Lois Circle
 Wed 15th 2:00pm Friendship Circle



**United
 Methodist
 Women**

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION



Thank you to our April Coordinator
Shirley Lyons, and to all volunteers
who served Meals on Wheels
for the month of April:

Pat & Ray Elston
John & Jan Duscher
Vay & Arleen Rodman
Rick Brown
Jerry Moon
Terri Jones
JoAnn VanNorman
Marlys Christensen
Linda Dawson
Judi Ray
Peggy Roll

Jan Dehmlow
Marv & Margaret Grunig
Jody Vanderwerf
Pat Elston
Bruce & Judy Rhoda
Pat & Mary Lee Raverty
Eldon & Deanna Moon
Jody Derickson
Dana Krumrey
Mary Franz
Kathy Jo McInnis

As you can see, it takes many people to
provide this ministry service. Our church
provides the volunteers in April and August
each year, as other churches and
organizations serve the other months.

Thank you all!



The Dinner Table is a food mission, similar to The Banquet in Sioux Falls. A free meal is served to guests who need a helping hand. The first meal is served Tuesday, April 30th at 5:30pm at the Windom Presbyterian Church; meals will be served monthly; the second serving night will be Tuesday, May 28th (same time, same place). Volunteers are encouraged to sign up in the lobby to help. Also, cookies are needed, so if you like to bake, please sign up for that. Cookies are being collected in our church's freezer near the kitchen. Questions? Please contact our church office, or talk to Kathy Jo McInnis. Thank you for helping with this need in our community!

2019 Love Offering

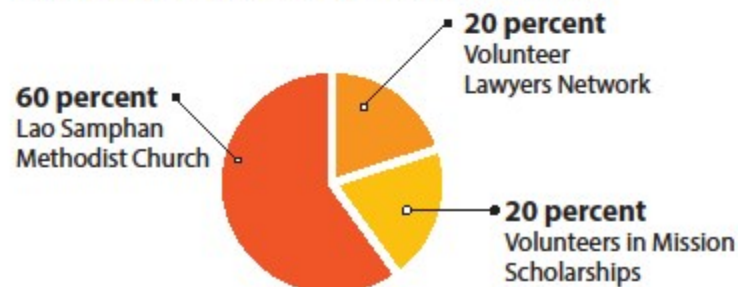
Each year, churches in the UMC Minnesota Conference take a Love Offering for missions. The offering is brought to the Annual Conference session by our pastor in June. Donations in 2018 totaled \$106,000. Each year several missions are chosen to receive this offering, and the 2019 missions chosen are explained below. Donations can be made to First UMC, and noted for Love Offering. The donations will be combined and sent with Pastor Mike to the MN Annual Conference.

OFFERING FINANCIAL GIFTS



Lao Samphan Methodist Church

The United Methodist Church's presence in Laos is growing through the Lao Samphan Methodist Church ("Samphan" means "united"). Rev. Daniel Yang, a Minnesota elder now serving as a United Methodist missionary in Laos, oversees new church development, training and equipping leaders, and pastoral support. Yang and other leaders are working to establish a Methodist presence in 17 provinces in Laos, develop committed church members and leaders, build relationships with national and local government, and build a resource training center and dormitory. They're also creating programs to support the socio-economic development of both church members and communities in Laos, one of the poorest countries in the world. Love Offering funds will be used to further these efforts.



Volunteer Lawyers Network

Established in 1966, Volunteer Lawyers Network helps thousands of people each year by providing civil legal services to people living in poverty. It connects immigrants, single parents, the working poor, prior offenders, the LGBTQ community, and others with top lawyers in the state, who donate their time to support equal access to justice. All services are provided at no cost to clients, 7,300 of whom were served in fiscal year 2018. Love Offering funds will go toward the Immigrant Legal Services program, through which volunteer lawyers and staff partner with community organizations—including Northfield UMC—to provide culturally competent services to immigrant and refugee neighbors.



Volunteers in Mission Scholarships



Mission trips change the lives of participants by giving them an opportunity to grow in faith and gain a new perspective of

the world. Through the United Methodist Church's Volunteers in Mission program, teams spend up to two weeks working on mission projects domestically or abroad. Most teams from Minnesota are engaged in hands-on projects that build infrastructure to ensure that nutritional, medical, and educational programs in developing countries become sustainable and locally run. Team members pay their own way, and the Love Offering helps to offset the cost for first-time participants.



MEMORIALS **FIRST THINGS RADIO BROADCAST** REQUEST FORMS.....

Something new! Thank you to all who have helped with this ministry in sponsoring a First Things radio broadcast. What a great ministry! For easier recordkeeping we are asking that a form be filled out when sponsoring a broadcast. You can pick up a form in the church lobby or in the church office. It is a simple form and should just take a couple minutes to complete. The form and amount needed for the broadcast can be brought to the church office or put in the Treasurer mailbox located across from the church office. When we receive the form, the date and information will be recorded on the broadcast calendar. If you have any questions, please contact Jody Derickson at 831-3284.

MEMORIALS FIRST THINGS RADIO BROADCAST REQUEST FORM



Thank you for your interest in providing the First Things radio broadcast. Please fill out the information needed in making that designation. After completing the information, please give this form and check/cash in the amount of \$34.00 to Laura Williams in the church office or to Jody Derickson (treasurer mailbox located across from the office). Checks can be made to FUMC Memorials. Please note that payment needs to be made to reserve that date.

First Things Requested Date:

In Memory or Honor of (circle one):

Given by:

Office use	2019
Check No: _____	Cash: _____
Recorded: _____	

Christian Education News

May 2019

Special points of interest:

- May 1st KFC @ Windom State Theater. Theater opens at 6:00, movie @ 6:30pm.
- May 12th: Mother's Day!
- May 19th: Senior Recognition Sunday
- May 19th: Last Day of Sunday School—SS Volunteer/Student Recognition Breakfast at 9:00am
- May 20th—VBS registrations are due.
- June 9th-13th: VBS!! 6:00-8:30pm each night.

JOIN US FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Ready for the adventure of a lifetime?

We have an adventure for everyone at FUMC! Join us for our VBS Program – ROAR! Life is wild, God is good – June 9th-13th.



JOIN US FOR VBS—
June 9th-13th

At ROAR! kids will learn to look for God's creativity in the world around them!

We will participate in a hands-on mission project. Our offerings will go to The First 1,000 Days of Life. Our funds will help moms & babies throughout Zambia.

Invite your children's friends to attend. VBS is open to children Pre-school age through 5th grade.

Sign-ups and registrations are available at the ROAR! sign-up display in the church lobby or call Robin at 831-3284. Mark these dates on your calendar: June 9th-13th. The fun starts at 6:00 PM and goes until 8:30 PM each night. Parents and all of our Church family, please join us during the Safari celebration each

night at 8:15 to see all that the kids have experienced that night at VBS. After the Safari celebration on June 13th, we will enjoy a sweet treat together! Everyone is invited!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

VBS doesn't happen without A LOT of volunteers! There are many different areas to choose from. Please look at the Volunteer sheet to see if there is an area you would love to help with! You are needed and appreciated!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S GRADUATES!

Madison Dahna
MacKayla Garrison
Tim Ingram
Katrina LaCanne
Eric Pfeffer
Emma Snyder

We wish you all the best!!



SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION

Everyone is invited to join us on Sunday, May 19th for our end of year Sunday School Celebration! We will be enjoying breakfast during the regular Sunday School hour at 9:00am. We will enjoy eating together, as a church family, and take time to thank all of our Sunday School volunteers, recognize our graduating seniors, and honor our Sunday School students.

COME CELEBRATE WITH US!



KFC



The **FINAL** KFC of the school year will be on Wednesday, May 1st. The year went SO fast!! We will be going to the Windom State Theater to watch *Miracles from Heaven*. The theater will be open at 6:00, and the movie will start right at 6:30.

KFC is for all kids (and their friends) in grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th.



2019

Camping Brochures are
in
the information area
in the church lobby.

You also can find
camping
scholarship
applications there
as well.

If you need any more
information
please see Robin.



2019 Camping Scholarship Application Form Windom First United Methodist Church

I. Personal Information:

Camper Name _____ Parent's Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

II. Camp Information:

I am attending Camp(camp title) _____

Is this a Methodist Church Camp? _____

Camp Location _____ Dates of Camp _____

Cost of Camp _____

Is this the only camp/retreat event this camper will attend this calendar year: **YES** **NO**

Please share briefly why you would enjoy going to this camp?

*I understand that funds are limited and I will be notified of my actual campership award.

Parent Signature

Date

The “Mane” Event



The best week of the summer!

New friends • Amazing experiments • Creative games
Super-fun snacks • Surprising adventures • Incredible music

Location: _____
(church name)

VBS will last from: _____
(VBS dates)

Each day's fun begins at: _____
(VBS starting time)

The VBS day ends at: _____
(VBS ending time)

For more information, call: _____
(church phone number)

Register online here: _____
(web address)

Please return registration to church office by May 20th. Cost: \$10.00 donation which includes t-shirt.
Please select size at bottom of form. If mailing, return to: FUMC, 974 6th Street, Windom, MN 56101



Registration Form

(One Per Child)

All students in grades Preschool-5th grade are welcome!
June 9th-13th from 6:00-8:30pm each night.

Child's name: _____ Child's gender: _____

Child's age: _____ Date of birth: _____ Last school grade completed: _____

Name of parent(s): _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home telephone: (_____) _____

Parent/caregiver's cellphone: (_____) _____

Home email address: _____

Home church: _____

Crew number or name (for church use only): _____

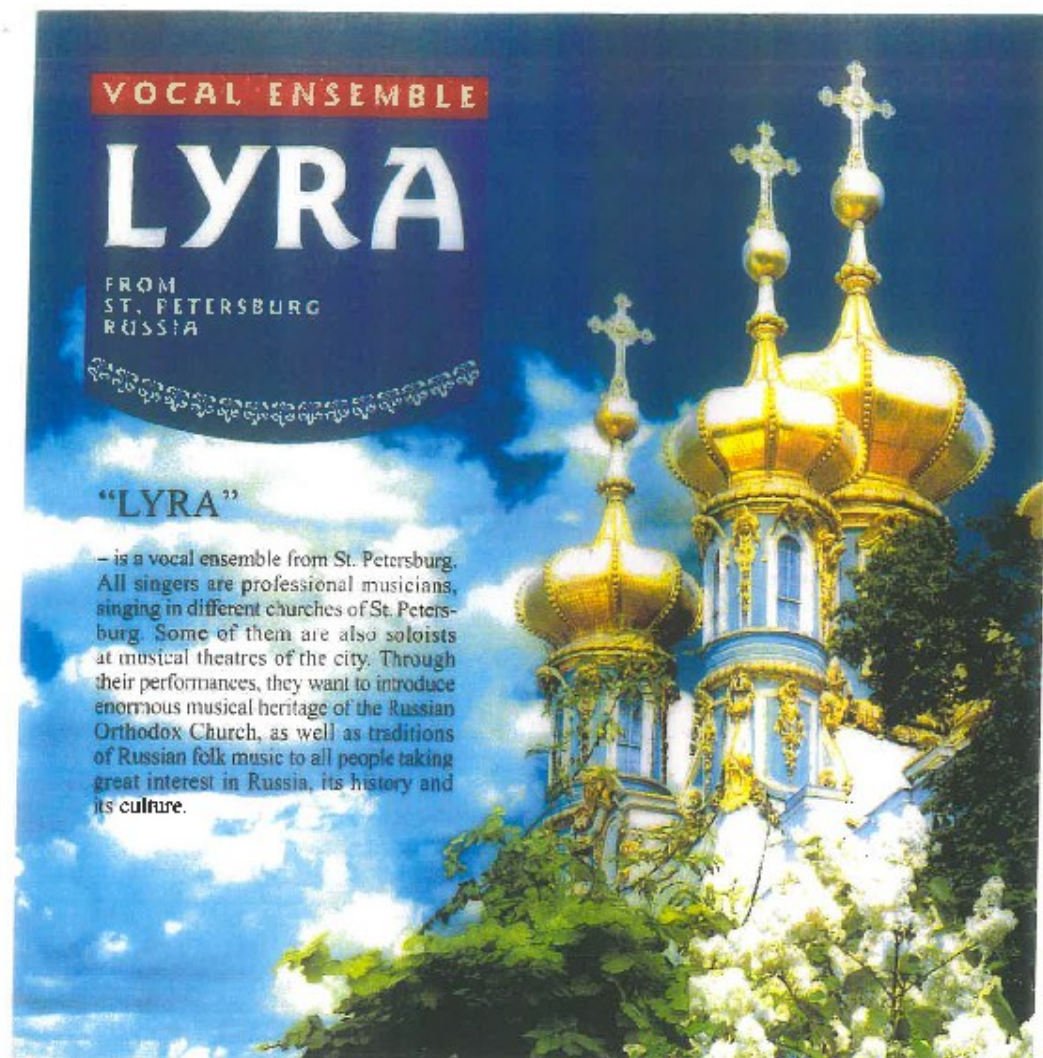
Allergies or other medical conditions: _____



In case of emergency, contact: _____

Phone: _____

Relationship to child: _____



*Chants of Russian Orthodox Church
and folk songs from Russia*

Monday, May 6, 2019 7:00 p.m.

**United Methodist Church
205 N. Marshall, Springfield**

**Free will cash offering. Refreshments after the concert.
Everyone welcome!**



**Memorial Day is
Monday, May 27th**

I thank my God every time I remember you.

Philippians 1:3





Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

CONFERENCE CONNECTIONS

All United Methodist churches are connected through shared mission and ministry and united in their efforts to grow in love of God and neighbor, reach new people, and heal a broken world. Check out these news tidbits from the Minnesota Annual Conference, which serves all 350 United Methodist churches in the state.

- **Bishop Ough: Living and dreaming together:** Bishop Bruce R. Ough recently said his heart is broken to see The United Methodist Church so divided and shared his dream: “I dream of a church that is colorful, diverse, and full of love. I dream of a church that is passionately evangelical and transformative in its mission. I dream of a church that is deeply Wesleyan and wonderfully welcoming. I dream of a church that freely and boldly provides space for all who are gifted and called by God.” He acknowledged the cries of lament, anxiety, and anger following General Conference 2019 and pledged to lead the conference to remain focused on making disciples. He advised Minnesota United Methodists: “Do not lose sight of or heart for our first love—the mission of Jesus. In the midst of upheaval, Jesus’ mission remains the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.”
- **2019 Annual Conference—Dare to Reach: Love Boldly!** June 18-20, 2019, St. Cloud. Join us as a voting member or a visitor! Drawing on John 4:1-26, we will look at how Jesus calls us to step out of our comfort zone and reach new people for Christ. We will tell our collective story of how God’s love quenches our thirst, and explore ways to invite everyone to drink from the well so that their thirst is quenched. It will be a meaningful time of worship, learning, and discerning. Register by May 15 for the best rates. Learn more: www.minnesotaumc.org/annualconference

- **Volunteer for General Conference 2020:** Have you heard? The Dakotas-Minnesota Area is hosting the 2020 United Methodist General Conference, which will bring thousands of siblings in Christ from around the world to Minneapolis from May 5-15. The host team is looking for volunteers of all ages, interests, and abilities to extend radical hospitality to guests. Learn more and indicate your interest in volunteering: <https://gc2020welcome.org>

BRIGHT SPOTS IN OUR MIDST

- **Minnesota lay speaker delivers 500th sermon:** Back in 2004, Jack Rogers’ pastor told him he was going to start preaching at a senior living complex. “There’s got to be someone more qualified than me,” he recalls telling Rev. Rachel McIver Morey, who now serves Northfield UMC. But she insisted that he was up for the task. So after Rogers accompanied her a few times and watched her preach, he reluctantly delivered a sermon himself and eventually went through lay speaker training. Now, 15 years later, Rogers recently completed his 500th lay sermon. “The more success I have, the better the example Christ is making me for other people,” he said. “I’m not educated, I’m not good-looking, I’m not athletic, I’m not well-spoken, I’m not well-dressed. I’m as plain and ordinary as you can get...If I can do it, anyone can do it.”
- **Lydia Project exceeds pledge goal:** For the past year, nearly 200 churches across the Dakotas-Minnesota Area have been creating beautiful, hand-made purple scarves for General Conference 2020 participants as a gesture of welcome. This initiative, called the Lydia Project (after Lydia in Acts 16), aims to provide warm hospitality to all who join in the work of legislation, fellowship, and worship when our global connection meets in Minneapolis in May 2020. The number of scarves pledged recently exceeded the ambitious 10,000 goal! Thanks be to God!


STAY CONNECTED!

“Like” the Minnesota Annual Conference on Facebook, follow the conference on Twitter and Instagram (@MinnesotaUMC), and sign up (at www.minnesotaumc.org) for e-newsletters. For more information about any of the items listed above, visit www.minnesotaumc.org.

First United Methodist Church ~May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30p All-church movie @ Theater 6:30p Kids For Christ at Windom Theater 6:30pm Confirmation	2 National Day of Prayer 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	3 6:30a McPrayer @ McDonald's	4 UMW Spiritual Growth Retreat – Advent UMC
5 9:00a Coffee 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Adult Groups 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 First Things	6	7 9:30a UMW Executive Meeting 5:00p Service Broadcast Ch 3	8 3:30p Lois Circle 7:00 Trustees Meeting 7:30 Finance Meeting 7:30 SPRC Meeting	9 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	10 6:30a McPrayer @ McDonald's	11
12 Mother's Day 9:00a Sunday School 9:00 Adult Groups 9:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 First Things	13	14 5:00 Service Broadcast Ch 3	15 2:00p Friendship Circle	16 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	17	18
19 Sunday School Celebration 9:00a Sunday School Breakfast/Awards Graduate Recognition 9:00 Coffee 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 First Things	20 5:00p Okoboji Bible Conference Women's Luncheon Ticket Deadline	21 1:00p Missions 5:00p Service Broadcast Ch 3	22 7:00p Baccalaureate at High School	23 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	24	25 Summer church schedule starts this weekend!
26 8:30a Coffee 9:00 Worship Service 11:30 First Things	27  Memorial Day Church closed	28 12:00p Friendly Fellowship 5:00p Service Broadcast Ch 3 5:30 Serving at The Dinner Table	29	30 6:30a Men's Breakfast @ Hardee's	31	

1st UMC Birthdays & Anniversaries ~May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Birthdays Anniversaries		1 Julie Diemer Jerome & Marcia Smith	2 Ken Paulson	3 Saydie Raverty	4 Jennifer Jeffrey Wayne & Su Jeffrey
5 Kaleb Curry Mike Simon	6	7 Jeremy Green Andrew Pfeffer	8 Steve White	9 Elaine Bramstedt Teigen Wormstadt Brian & Kristi Hedman	10	11 Julie Donchez
12	13 Kody & Shaina Johnson	14	15	16 Marv Grunig	17 Jan Duscher Le Krumrey	18 Nicole Inman
19 Glenda Defries Kristi Hedman	20 Leah Hollon	21 Harold Caviness	22 Amanda Jandera Loren Defries Brynnley Pletcher Mary Lee Raverty	23 Riley Inman	24	25
26	27 Landrey Pletcher Peggy Roll	28 Connor Raderstorf	29 Samantha Branch Deloy & Ellen King	30 Marlene Simon	31 Shaina Johnson	Are we missing anyone? Please let the church office know.