

November 2008

GRACE SPOTLIGHTER



SOMETHING'S RIGHT

The sound feet is sweet as our school children enter the sanctuary for chapel each week. This is God's house, and we are in his presence. Lutheran schooling begins with the wisdom of God and young voices sing, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Their singing gives the definite sense ...

Something's right.

The aroma of coffee is mixed with morning greetings between friends as men and women gather for Bible study, fellowship, and prayer each week. On the Lord's Day the members know in their time together with the Lord ...

Something's right.

This house of God on the corner of Price and Ruth is a beautiful sanctuary, a jewel really. Even neighbors will tell you. It is where God himself gathers His people, where the wonder, hope, promise, and joy of the Gospel is proclaimed. Within the refuge of its walls the Holy Sacraments minister God's forgiveness and life to His people, announcing to all ...

Something's right.

After 491 years, this church has raised again its noble anthem of the Lutheran faith. "A Mighty Fortress is our God" announces once more the confession of His people. "With might of ours can naught be done, soon were our loss effected; but for us fights the Valiant One, Whom God Himself elected. Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is..." Because Christ is the cornerstone of His church ...

Something's right.

The call of the mission field is heard. Commitments for the support of Pastor Erber in Nigeria have continued for decades now. Pastor Seaver extends the ministry of Grace in Germany. Every time we budget funds for the coming year, offerings first go to missions. The missionaries, when they think of their friends at home, know ...

Something's right.

No question the people have been blessed. It is always time for thanksgiving. God has blessed them. Least of all those blessings are our homes, cars, cabins, sunshine, jobs, children, freedoms, fresh food, and plenty of clothes. And above all this is, we have been redeemed by the Son of God and called to faith in Him. We are nourished by the life-giving Body and Blood of our Savior, have Bibles of our own, and hear words of full absolution. Not in material riches, but through Word and Sacrament, the people know ...

Something's right.

Is it foolish, presumptuous, or unrealistic to confess "something's right" when so much in our human nature and society is wrong? When our culture is profane? When even in our church we confess habitual wrongs? Can any good really come from times when Christians struggle, congregations toil, or synods clash? Yes. At Grace we say it every Sunday, "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever," which says in other words:

Something's right.

Something IS right. More than so many know. We are declared righteous because of the redemption won for us by Christ. The Word of His Gospel is more gentle than the hush of children's feet, more enduring than the centuries, more far-reaching than the distant corners of the globe. God's grace reaches beyond the end of time, covers every sin, and restores all who believe and are baptized to fellowship with God. The very reason we unite at Grace in the confession of our faith is because, in Christ....

Something's right.

And more than a little right! By faith we are made new by God's Son (Ephesians 4:21-23). This is newness which comes, not by our effort or our choice but by the action of God the Holy

Spirit who communicates to us our Savior. Christ is what is right about our congregation. He is what is right about our worship, our service, our stewardship, and our school. He is the All in All of our life together. That is why we are never ashamed to say ...

Something's right.

And as the church continues to say it—and mean it—as we humbly and unreservedly trust in Him, serve in the joy of our Savior, and daily confess in faith what is wonderfully right in Christ will we more fully see what God has redeemed us to be.

After all, Grace is here to serve God's people and a world in need of the Lord's salvation. We are not here simply to satisfy an image, but to be The Image of Christ to those around us.

He gives us everything we are – the pure result of God's generosity. We've never wanted to be just pretty or passable in our appearance and worship. That is why we turn again and again to the truth that in Christ ...

Something's right.

The Lord has made it so. God placed the welfare of his people into the hands of His divine Son. Jesus was treated shamefully wrong. Savaged by his enemies, abused by his friends, and plundered of life itself, He who knew no sin became sin for us. He surrendered to dishonor, bore our iniquities, submitted to death, and rose life's Victor so that one day you and I could say what never could have been said without Him ...

Something's right.

He is the resurrection and the life. We who believe in him will live, even though we die; and whoever lives and believes in him will never die. We believe this.

Something's right.

And right forever because of Him.

Pastor

When your child has a “story”

An individual child's perception of events is like no other. A child

can only understand things from his or her perspective. When your child comes home with a story of injustice that is accompanied by emotional pain, it is hard to know what really happened and how to react in a way that is helpful for your child.

The issue is really about discernment – for the parent and the child. Children are egocentric. This not meant as an insult. Egocentric means the child sees everything from his or her own mindset. The child is unable to understand what someone else might think or feel. In fact, young children believe that everyone is thinking the same thing they are.

If three year old Susie wants a marker and her classmate Billy takes it, she assumes that Billy took it to be mean, because from her frame of reference, everyone wants her to have the marker. It does not occur to her that Billy wanted the marker for himself and thinks that Susie is being mean to him.

A boy comes home with a story about the unfairness of a teacher's decision, or the injustice of treatments from a classmate, is also seeing this event from his perspective. He does not understand that others involved in the situation have their own feelings. This leads him to believe that people are out to get him – just like Susie who wants the marker.

If we parents accept the story as being both true and complete, we will only reinforce this incorrect thinking. Yet, if we dismiss his concerns, we are giving him the impression that we don't believe what he says. The answer is to dig deeper for the whole story.

Because children are egocentric, it's easy for them to bend information and give an incomplete picture of what happened. Some children do this intentionally, but most do it unintentionally. They simply remember things that are important to them, and forget things that do not relate to their feelings about

Principal's Report Peter Fredrich

the story, and sometimes recreate a newer version that fits their feelings and perceptions.

Consider these common phrases used by children with the adult perception in parentheses:

- No one likes me. (I couldn't find someone to play the way I wanted to play)
- The teacher yelled at me. (He said something I didn't want to hear.)
- It's not fair. (It's not the way I want it to be.)
- She deserved it. (She is different from me and that makes me nervous.)
- The teacher didn't explain it. (I didn't ask questions.)
- He hit me first. (I understand my pain, but not my responsibility.)
- You always take her side. (I am not getting my way at this moment.)

You can see that these phrases represent only one side of the story. The information regarding what happened is incomplete and the perspective bends the information to the view of the child. Most children don't do this on purpose, so the feelings that accompany these phrases are real. As a parent, you need to help them understand the whole story.

It is important to listen and teach when your child comes home with a story. Here are some guidelines to follow when digging for more truth than what your child is offering:

-Listen. Listen to your child's story without prejudice.

-Ask. Ask questions about what happened until you get a complete picture.

-Avoid. Help your child avoid statements that indicate they think they know what someone else intended.

-Dig. Ask some questions that will help your child empathize with others involved.

-Problem solve. Brainstorm with your child some possible ways to handle the situation.

-Solicit help. Sometimes you begin to see a pattern in stories your child brings home. Perhaps you suspect that your child is being bullied or that there is a miscommunication

between your child and the teacher. This is an excellent time to ask for help from the teacher.

-Reassure. Often the process of listening and asking questions is all your child needs to readjust to the situation.

-Pray. Say a prayer asking God for discernment and thanking Him for attending to even the smallest details of our lives.

No one said that parenting was going to be easy. However, we know that parenting is a part of God's plan for preparing His children for the work He has planned for them. You are the tools of God, and He will bless your efforts.

Volleyball is underway for our Grizzlies. Coach Gail Koch is very optimistic about the ability of the team. Games are played beginning around 5:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. A schedule of games is located on the school web page under "Sports Schedules."

Parent/teacher conferences will be scheduled for the evening of November 12th and in the afternoon and evening of November 13th and the afternoon of November 14th if necessary. The first quarter marking period ends on November 7. All parents will be scheduled for an appointment with their child(s) teacher. Classes will end at noon on both November 13th and 14th.

Thanksgiving is November 27th, and there will be no classes in session November 26th, 27th, or 28th.



JUNIOR HIGH HIGHLIGHTS

The French and Indian War was really fought between the French and English with the Indians assisting both sides. After this war, there is growing discontent in the colonies as they are taxed by Britain to help pay off the war debt. When the colonists can tolerate the British dominance no longer, a war for the independence of America is fought. This period of time is exciting to read about in our lessons. In addition to providing important history facts of our first fight for independence, it really instills some patriotic sentiments. Seventh grade math will continue with the exploration of percent. Our learning will focus on finding the percentage of a number, finding the percent one number is of another number, finding the percent of increase or decrease, and finding a number when

a percent of it is known. Eighth grade algebra studies continue working with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of rational numbers. The lives of Jacob, Joseph, and Moses, three great heroes of the faith, will be examined throughout November's religion instruction. The lessons of trusting in God, forgiveness for others when they offend us, and the need for our rescue from sin and shortcomings will be discussed. Rock is the most common material on the earth. Earth scientists classify rocks into three main types, depending on how they were formed. Igneous rocks form from the cooling and hardening of molten rock; sedimentary rocks form from sediments; and heat, pressure, and chemical reactions can change existing rocks into metamorphic rocks. To help

understand our earth, junior high earth science students will learn about how rocks form and how to interpret the information they provide about our earth.



Mick & Josh looking at

Miss Rudick's Classroom

We have been very busy in our classroom. At the end of October we helped with the chapel service. Miss Rudick let us choose the hymns to sing, help lead the prayer, and plan the skits for the message. It was very exciting!

In religion we are reminded in each lesson that God has a plan for our lives. He had a plan for Joseph even when he was a slave in Egypt. He had a plan for Moses even though he



JORDAN & CAM WORKING TOGETHER

waited until Moses was 80 years old to carry out His plan.

God's plans may not make sense to us, but we are learning that God's plans are always best.

In Social Studies we continue to talk about schools. We are learning how schools are different now and how to work together in school. We are also learning how to find a main idea and how to read maps.

In Science we are learning about living things and their needs. We have learned the different parts of the plant. We are now going on to learn what all living things need and how those needs change depending on the habitat.

We are reviewing and learning many new concepts in math. We are working on counting money, telling time, place value, reading thermometers, and addition and subtraction facts. We work on all of these concepts together. Some of this is review for some of us



RAVEN, CAM & MOLLY DOING A CHAPEL SKIT.

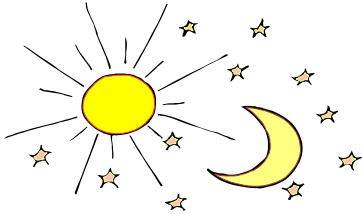
and some of this is new.

We are also doing a lot of reading. The 2nd grade students have much longer stories this year. Kindergarten and 1st grade continue to learn more words and how to sound out certain words. Mrs. Lance comes in once a week so we can take turns practicing reading to her.

This school year is turning out to be a very exciting and productive year! We are learning so many new things. We pray our Lord's continued blessings on this exciting school year!

Room 4 News

Room 4 is running into November with vigor and resolution. We have just received the new science kits that will accompany the unit *Sun, Moon, and Earth*.



I will be spending a great deal of time learning the curriculum and incorporating it in a way to enhance the learning. It will be a new experience for some of the students, but I am sure it will be a welcomed

change.

I am increasingly pleased with the writing advances my students are producing. They are gaining an understanding of the need, and benefit to write a selection over...and over...and over again. Pre-writing, drafts, revising, editing, revising some more, and ultimately working towards a published piece.



Classroom unity is increasing as students are being exposed to



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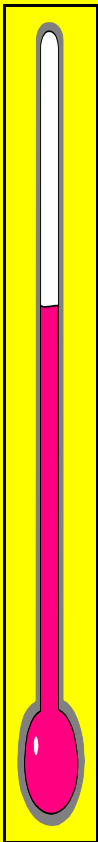
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more cooperative- learning opportunities. We are learning to be respectful of other's opinions and encouraging to different ideas.

We are a tight group, we Gators! And it's only going to get better. God bless our class, and God bless Grace!

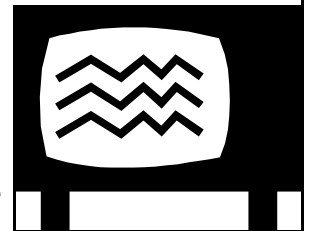
Thrivent Match Update

With two months to go until year end the amount of our Thrivent match funds either received or to be received is \$19,586. This is just short of our minimum goal of \$20,000 but still a long way from our aggressive goal of \$30,000. Thank you to all who saw that this was a tremendous way to help our congregation's financial needs.



On 2/17/09, TV goes all digital.. ...will you be ready?

The Auburn Jaycees and the Michigan Association of Broadcasters



are teaming up to help you prepare!

DTV Informational Open House
Thursday, Nov. 6, 2008
Mid-Michigan Innovation Center
4520 E. Ashman Rd. Midland

We'll sign you up to receive your \$40 coupon off a converter box!

www.auburnjaycees.org

Help Feed the Hungry

Every year when we gather to thank to the Lord, on America's Thanksgiving, we here at Grace Lutheran have contributed to our local food pantry as a part of our offering. (The monetary offering is split between 6 charities as approved by the Voters' Assembly.) We will once again be collecting non-perishable food items this year for our local food pantry. This will be done at both the Thanksgiving Eve service on November 26th and the Thanksgiving morning service on November 27th. Please consider contributing to this for those who are less fortunate. This is only a small way in which we can give thanks to the One who gives us every good gift.

Thank You

Ron & I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, phone calls & visits during the past two months. My surgery went well. On November 4, I go to the Oncologist to start my chemo & radiation therapy.

God willing, after that everything will be fine and go back to normal.

Ron & Carol Mularz

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH SPECIAL ACCOUNTS FUNDS:

(DEDICATED ACCOUNTS)

Church Memorial
School Memorial
Altar Flowers
Choir
Common Project
Capital Improvement
Debt Retirement/ Church Extension
Fund
Endowment Fund
General Fund-Special Accounts
Hand Bells
Library Fund
Lutheran Hour-Saginaw Valley
Parking Lot Fund
Scholarship (Concordia Compact)
Sunday School
Together in Mission (TIM)
World Relief
Vacation Bible School

Notes

GRACE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY REQUEST

In 2009 Grace will begin celebrating its 50 anniversary. We are trying to locate all the confirmands in those 50 years. If you have a son, daughter, niece, nephew, cousin, neighbor, friend that was confirmed at Grace would you please give us their addresses and phone numbers. All information can be sent to Judy Lance via mail, church mail, phone or e-mail. (400 Virginia, Auburn, 662-6785, BruceLance@hotmail.com) Thanks for your help.

St. John's Lutheran School

505 E. Carpenter St. Midland
8th Grade Holiday Bazaar
Saturday November 1
9:00 am-3:00 pm

St. John 's Lutheran Pinconing

Sausage & Sauerkraut & Beef
Sunday, Nov. 2
Held at K of C
326 N. Water St., Pinconing
Adult \$8:00 Child \$3.50

Bay County Scrapbook for Humanity

Grace Lutheran Auburn
Saturday, November 1
9:00 am -11:00 pm
Fee \$40.00

St. Lorenz Frankenmuth

Friday, November 7, 4-7 pm
At St. Lorenz School
All you can eat Fish Fry
Adults \$8.50 Children (4-12) \$4.25,
3 & under free. Takeouts Are \$7.75

Monitor Scrap Booking Fundraiser

Friday, November 7th from 5:30-11:30 pm, and Saturday November 8th from 9am -9pm at Trinity Monitor. Come one day or both. Good food, great fun! Call 662-7972 or 686-2269 to reserve your spot.



YOUTH NEWS

Given in Memory

Owen Rohn
By
Don Wackerly

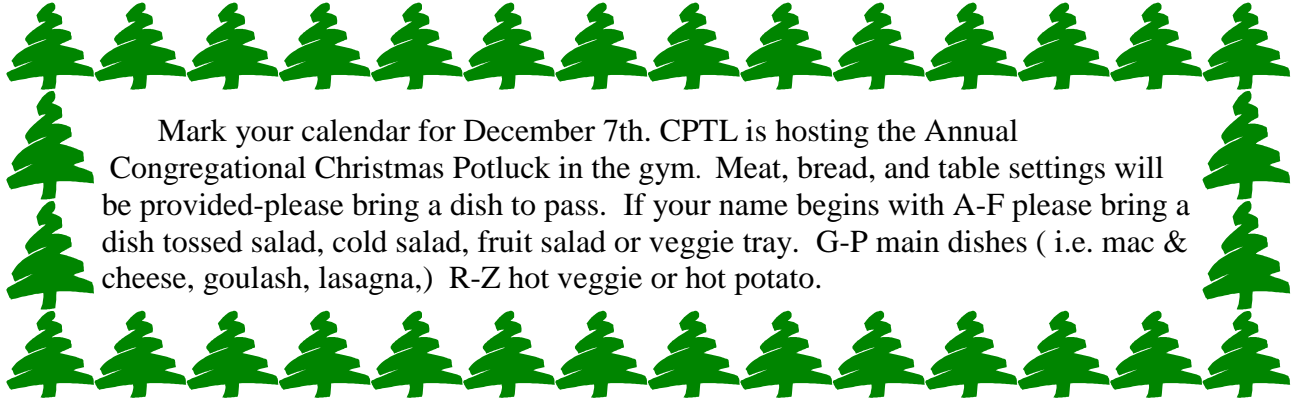
Dwayne Garno
By
Don Wackerly

A gift was given by
Michael & Susan Halm
in honor of
Don Wackerly's birthday.

The Youth would like to thank everyone who supported the recent Harvest dinner, whether by working, donating, or just coming to enjoy the delicious meal that was prepared. The congregation always enjoys getting together at events like this, and having a tasty meal is always a bonus!

We are planning an evening of fun on Saturday, October 25th. We will be navigating a corn maze using flashlights, as well as braving a haunted forest. Afterwards, we'll head over to Chris Roth's house for more fun. Sounds like a spooky-good time!

Elections were held at the last Youth meeting, and the new slate of officers is as follows: President Kye Sugden, Vice President Kevin Whalen, Secretary Chris Roth, and Treasurer Jessica Ruff. We're looking forward to a great year with these capable leaders at the helm. As a reminder, any high school students are welcome to join us in Youth Group. We meet every Sunday between services in the Youth Room (nursery). We also plan lots of other fun and service events throughout the year. Come see the fun we have in Youth Group!



Mark your calendar for December 7th. CPTL is hosting the Annual Congregational Christmas Potluck in the gym. Meat, bread, and table settings will be provided-please bring a dish to pass. If your name begins with A-F please bring a dish tossed salad, cold salad, fruit salad or veggie tray. G-P main dishes (i.e. mac & cheese, goulash, lasagna,) R-Z hot veggie or hot potato.

VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Nov. 4	Nov. 6	Nov. 11	Nov. 13	Nov. 18
3 vs. 1	5 vs. 1	1 vs. 6	1 vs. 2	6 vs. 1
4 vs. 6	2 vs. 7	4 vs. 2	7 vs. 4	2 vs. 4
7 vs. 5	6 vs. 3	3 vs. 7	5 vs. 6	7 vs. 3
	4 bye	5 bye	3 bye	5 bye

Teams & Code Numbers 1. Zion, B C 2. St. Paul, Frankenlust 3. **Grace, Auburn**
 4. St. John, Amelith 5. Trinity, Monitor 6. St. John, Midland 7. Zion, Beaver

Team listed first is home team. Game times are 5:30. B-team plays first followed by A-team.

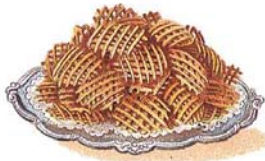
B-teams are made up of boys and girls from grades 4-6.

Come and cheer our Grace Grizzlies on!!!!

**HOLIDAY BAKE SHOPPE
GRACE LUTHERAN
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8
10:00 AM—2:00 PM.**

**SILENT AUCTION ON
SEVERAL HANDEMADE QUILTS**

**COME AND GET ALL YOUR
CHRISTMAS BAKED GOODS
AND
ALL TIME
FAVORITES**



Helping Others World Wide

Lutheran World Relief

Once again the members of Grace have contributed to the efforts of Lutheran World Relief to alleviate the sufferings of many needy people throughout our world. Many of you have contributed to these efforts in the ways that you can, and for that we are very thankful. We also received help from the "Oopsers" quilting group with a number of quilt tops that they gave to our quilting group. In all, we donated 62 quilts and 25 school kits to this year's World Relief drive. We also thank the school children for donating the components of the school kits. These are given to children in areas where they cannot afford to buy the needed items for school work. Our quilts go all over the world. They are used not only in the ways that we are used to seeing quilts used, but also as "walls" and other household ways where homes don't amount to much by our standards.

One of our major purchases for the quilting group has been batting for the insides of our quilts. One roll of batting makes about 20 quilts for World Relief, and it costs about \$100. We need about three rolls per year. In order to raise money for more of this batting, we will be having a silent quilt auction during the "Holiday Bake Shoppe" on November 8th. The bids for the quilts will need to be in an hour before the closing time of the "Holiday Bake Shoppe." There will be a variety of sizes to bid on as well as a unique design to each quilt.

If any of you have fabrics that you no longer use – primarily sturdy cottons (there are many fabrics that we can't use, but can see that they are donated elsewhere) – you could donate them to our group. Also if you have old blankets and gently used old mattress pads that you no longer use, these can be used as fillers in place of the batting for these quilts. We can also use donations of spools of good quality thread, and crochet cotton for tying. We can also use many participants or anyone who is willing to do some independent work on their own. We can find something for anyone to do – you don't need any special sewing skills.

We hope to get the soap drive going again later this year also. All of these efforts are some of the great causes we can use in serving our Lord by serving His children. Thank you for your help in this.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

November

Grace Church Calendar



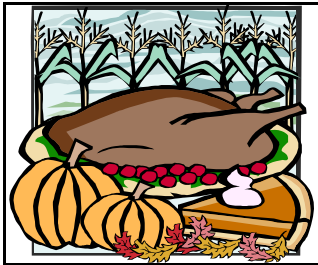
							1 8:00 am Women's Bible Study Habitat for Humanity Scrapbook Grace Gym
2 8:00 (H.C.) & 10:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 2:00 pm Community Sing Practice	3 9-3 Baking Workshop 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	4 Election Day 5:30 Volleyball Home vs. Zion, B.C.	5 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 9-3 Baking Workshop 7:00 Midweek Worship Holy Communion	6 9-3 Baking Workshop 5:30 Volleyball @ Midland 7 pm Choir	7		8:00 am Women's Bible Study Bake Shoppe & Quilt Auction
9 8:00 & 10:30 (H.C.) Worship 9:30 Sunday School 2:00 pm Community Sing Practice	10 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	11 5:30 Volleyball Home vs. Zion, Beaver 7:30 pm School board	12 6:30 am Men's Bible Study Parent Teacher Conf. Eve. 7:00 Anniversary Committee 7:00 Worship	13 1/2 day school Parent Teacher Conf. 7:00 pm Choir	14 1/2 day school Cookie Dough Delivery		15 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
16 8:00 (H.C.) & 10:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 2:00 pm Community Sing Practice	17 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	18 5:30 Volleyball at Zion, Beaver	19 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Worship Holy Communion	20 7:00 pm Choir	21		22 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
23 8:00 & 10:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 2:00 pm Community Sing Practice	24 7:00 Executive Board	25 7:00 pm CPTL	26 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship	27 9:00 am Thanksgiving Day Worship	28		29 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
30 8:00 (H.C.) 10:30 (H.C.) Worship 9:30 Sunday School			No	School			

Grace Lutheran Church and School
303 W. Ruth Street
Auburn, Michigan 48611

Rev. David H. Reed, Pastor
Mr. Peter Fredrich, Principal

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November

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

1 Olivia Mantei, 1 Kendra Meyer, 2 Jason Gripentrog, 3 Jonathon Clarey, 5 Wendy Arnold, 5 Judy Kuch, 5 Allen Ousterhout, 5 Dale Pickelman, 9 Dylan Jean, 9 Kevin Mularz, 9 Wilmar Schmidt, 10 Ervin Kuch, 10 Roxanne Lone, 11 Christopher Greenleaf, 12 Hunter Bickham, 13 Cameron Hundley, 13 Marcia Keidel, 14 Constance Gengler, 14 Marvin Wegener, 15 Cindy Dominowski, 15 Jason Dominowski, 15 Robert LeBeau, 15 Brandy Schmidt, 16 Rebecca Lynch, 16 Elmer Taglauer, 18 Nathaniel Hakes, 18 Craig Harrison, 21 Susan Greenleaf, 22 Elaine Schmidt, 23 James Dietlein, 23 Kathleen Ralph, 24 Eric Keidel, 26 James Kunderling, 26 Dawn Steward, 26 Freeda VanTol

Anniversaries

2 Earl & Irene Schmidt, 4 Kenneth & Janet Reisig, 11 Robert & Kathy Feinauer, 17 Harlan & Rosilyn Taglauer, 22 Elmer & Barbara Reiss, 28 John & Iris Dominowski