

RESURRECTION NEWS



September 2022

Pastor's Letter

September 2022

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

"God's people use time differently." I can still hear those words of Dr. Dale Meyer echoing in my head. I was a student in his preaching class. One day he walked in the door, handed out a piece of paper and said, "Get in groups and figure out how to preach this text. I'll be back in 15 minutes." With that, he left. The piece of paper said at the top: "Numbers 15:32-36—A Sabbathbreaker Executed." We puzzled for what seemed like forever on how to preach this text. If you haven't, you should read the text for yourself quickly. It's quite short, but also quite challenging. How do you apply such a wrath-filled passage to 21st century life? When he returned to the classroom, Dr. Meyer proceeded to ask each group what they thought. "So, how would you preach this text?" We all had our own ideas, which seemed clever at the time, but he was less than impressed. Finally, after he had exhausted all the groups, he said those words: "God's people use time differently."

He was right. That is the point of this text. Far too often we read the Scriptures and get caught up on the details and miss the main point. The details we get hung up on seem so significant to us—Why would God execute someone who only messed up once? Why does he punish all humans for the sins of one couple? Why did the sinless Son of God have to die? These questions seem so significant to us. And yet, our hang up on them causes us to miss the point.

Sin is serious. Sin creates irreversible damage, both in human relationships and in our relationship with God. We might want to brush off our sins—I said I'm sorry, okay? But sin is serious. God takes sin seriously. And so, as Christians, so should we.

But God also takes grace seriously. Sin is serious, but so is God's love. *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16). The sinless Son of God had to die so that your sins could be atoned for—so that your sin could be, not reversed, but wiped away. Sin is serious, but God is even more serious about grace—so much so that he took on human flesh in Jesus to suffer and die so that we might be forgiven. He takes grace so seriously that he has found a way to constantly offer his people grace upon grace upon grace.

And so, we're back to where we started—God's people use time differently. Why do God's people use time differently? Is it because the Lord commands us to do so and threatens to destroy us if we don't? No, that's not our motivation. God's people use time differently because we have been freed from slavery to sin. We still battle against that sin every day. But that's precisely why God's people use time differently.

God's people recognize keenly that we need God's continued grace to cover over our continued sins. And so, God's people prioritize receiving God's gifts of grace. God's people prioritize the Means of Grace. God's people prioritize God's Word and Sacraments because it is through these means that our Lord offers the antidote to our sin.

A new academic year is upon us. As our children are re-integrating themselves into the school routines, now is as good a time as any for us Christians to re-integrate ourselves into the routines of God's people. Here are three ways you might consider doing using your time differently:

1. **Prioritize attendance at the Divine Service.** Many of you have been faithful in this priority throughout the summer months, and for that I commend you! The Divine Service is the center of the Christian's week. It is that time when we come together as God's people to receive God's grace and to sing his praises. When we come together to hear God's Word preached and to receive the very body and blood of Christ given and shed for our forgiveness, we receive the very gift of life! *"For where there is forgiveness of sins there is also life and salvation"* (Luther's Small Catechism). To those of you who have been less than regular in your attendance at the Divine Service, I would strongly encourage you to do what you can to use your time differently. If you have special circumstances which limit your attendance, please contact me so we can find a time when I can bring you Holy Communion. Nothing, short of seeing you in the pew, would please me more!
2. **Prioritize daily devotion and prayer.** If the Divine Service is the center of the Christian's week, then daily devotion and prayer is the center of the Christian's day. I know that daily devotion and prayer can be a difficult habit to cultivate, but it is well-worth the effort of doing so. I have begun publishing a weekly devotion and prayer resource, called "The Congregation at Prayer", which is designed to help you with this. The resource will be available weekly in print (at church next to the bulletins on Sunday morning) or in PDF form (available in the weekly announcements email). (Note that "The Congregation at Prayer" will take the place of the Daily Lectionary, which used to be printed on the back of the newsletter.) I would highly encourage you to take advantage of this resource in one way, shape, or form. It is meant to be flexible. Use whichever parts are helpful in your/your family's devotional life. Pick a time of day and try to stick to it as well as you can. After a family meal tends to be the best devotional time for my family, but you may find that early in the morning or right before bed is easier. The Lord made us different in many ways, but we are all the same in that we need to use our time to hear from and speak to him.
3. **Prioritize deeper study of God's Word.** Many Christians find it difficult to study God's Word deeply. In a distracted culture where we prioritize instant gratification above all else, we shouldn't be surprised that studying God's Word is so difficult. As we seek to fight against the influence of this evil world on our lives, I would encourage you to take the extra effort to study God's Word deeply—preferably with someone else. You might consider joining us on Sunday mornings for Sunday School. You might consider joining my Thursday Bible class. You might consider joining Fernando's Saturday Bible class. Women might consider joining Deaconess Conover on Saturday mornings. Men might consider attending the monthly men's breakfast studies. Options are plentiful. I hope that you will consider taking advantage of at least one.

I'll leave you with this—God's people use time differently not because we must, but because our Lord continues to offer us his grace. How could we not run to his Means of Grace at every opportunity?

Peace in Jesus,
Pastor Akers

Notes from your Deaconess

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

Once again in our consideration of The Book of Concord, we find a word used quite differently than our typical usage of it. The next major portion, and the longest section of the entire work is “The Apology of the Augsburg Confession.” The first definition online in the Merriam-Webster dictionary for the word *apology* is: “an admission of error or discourtesy accompanied by an expression of regret,” whereas its second definition is: “something that is said or written to defend something that other people criticize: defense.” (Interestingly, in our Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary, copyright 1980, these two definitions have the reverse order.) The two definitions seem somewhat contradictory to each other, but clearly the Apology in The Book of Concord is a document of **defense**.

“Defense against what?” you may ask. After the presentation of the Augsburg Confession in June of 1530, the emperor’s response to the Lutherans came on August 3. The Pontifical Confutation (as it was called) was read aloud, with no copy given to the Lutherans. Several professional stenographers, however, transcribed this response as it was being read aloud. The Confutation demanded the Lutherans to back down from their positions on several points included in the Augsburg Confession. The Lutherans, unwilling to do so, asked Philip Melancthon to craft a careful response and defense of the confession. He completed it in April of 1531, sending it to the Roman Church. Later that year, the Lutheran princes formally adopted it as further description or grounding for their positions of faith confessed in the Augsburg Confession.

Portions receiving the most attention and defense using scripture and writings of early church fathers include the following topics: Justification – how we receive salvation by faith, not works; Love and Fulfilling the Law – the importance and place of works as flowing from faith; Repentance; Confession and Satisfaction; The Mass – how we understand the Sacrament of the Altar as contrasted with the Roman understanding.

In our Saturday morning Women’s Bible studies, we have begun to look at various recurring images and motifs used throughout the scriptures. We plan to hold meetings September 3 and 17, downstairs at church at 8:30am. You also may participate via Zoom, and I can send a link if you let me know you’d like to join that way.

Under his mercy,
Sharon

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
Matthew 11:28-30

Sunday Morning Schedule

Beginning Sunday, September 11, the “regular” Sunday schedule will resume.

8:00 Matins
8:30 Sunday School
10:00 Divine Service
11:30 Fellowship

Weekday Matins

On days when Pastor Akers is at church, he will be praying Matins at 8:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. All are welcome to join. A weekly schedule will be available in the bulletin.

“The Congregation at Prayer”

Every week Pastor Akers will be supplying the congregation with a prayer and devotional resource. It can be used individually or as a family. This resource, called “The Congregation at Prayer”, will encourage you to develop a regular prayer & devotion routine. It is centered around a Scripture verse, a section of the Catechism, and a hymn of the week for meditation and memorization. This resource is designed to be flexible, so that you can utilize as much or as little of it as you are able, depending upon the life stage in which you find yourself. Hard copies or a PDF will be available weekly.

Sunday School

Beginning September 11, Sunday School will resume at 8:30 a.m. every Sunday. All ages (adults and children alike) will meet in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin with an opening devotion (using “The Congregation at Prayer” resource), followed by a teaching and discussion time. The younger kids will have activities to keep their hands busy on a project which reinforces the teaching, while allowing their ears to listen and learn. During the discussion time, they will have a small snack and will be engaged in discussion at their level in smaller groups. We will explore topics such as, “Being a Christian in a Digitized Age”, “Man and Woman in Christ”, and “Living as a Christian in a Meaningless World.”

Thursday Bible Class

Thursday Bible class will meet at 10:30 a.m. in Room 201 and 6:30 p.m. via Zoom beginning on September 15. We will be studying the Propers for the upcoming Sunday. Contact Pastor Akers if you would like to be added to the email list.

Congregational Picnic

As autumn quickly approaches, our schedules will undoubtedly get busier. On September 11, in place of the fellowship hour, our congregation will come together to share in an afternoon of fun and fellowship in the form of a church picnic. Please RSVP via the link in the announcements email or on the sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board and indicate if you are able to join your brothers and sisters in making this day happen. If the weather looks good, please bring a lawn chair. See Amber Akers if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Thank You Notes:

Thank you for your donation to in support of helping to prepare the shepherds who will shine the light of our Lord into the lives of many.

In Chris,

Vicki Biggs Sr. VP Seminary Advancement
Concordia Seminary

Thank you for your gift to support Rev. Charles and Deborah St. Onge and also for your gift to support Ethnic Church Planting. God is performing marvelous deeds to make life-long disciples of all people!

Sub cruce,

Pastor Matthew C. Harrison, President LCMS

Thank you for your Gospel motivated voice For Life in support of our message, mission and ministry. Your fellowship has help inspire our 2022 theme "God Chose You".

In truth and live,

Rev. Michael W. Salemink

Exec. Director, Lutherans for Life

September Stewardship

	<u>September 4</u> 9 a.m.	<u>September 11</u> 10 a.m.	<u>September 18</u> 10 a.m.	<u>September 25</u> 10 a.m.
<u>Acolyte</u>	Hayley Farr	Evan Farr	Matthew Akers	Hayley Farr
<u>Worship Assistant</u>	Mark Larsen	Brian Watson	Chris Batson	Steve Farr
<u>Ushers</u>	Mo Cote	John Ayotte	Seth Carlson	Glenn Carlson Jr.
<u>Greeters</u>	Sharon Klipp	Christine Thomas	Julie Kohl	Steve & Lydia Bendas
<u>Altar Care</u>	Sharon Conover	Amanda Goldsmith	Amy Ouellette	Sasha Fitzpatrick
<u>Flowers</u>	Akers Family	Akers Family	Becky Cote	Becky Cote
<u>Fellowship</u>	The Cotes	Church Picnic	The Kubecks	Open



To Serve

Summertime always brings visitors. For Maine, tourism is a way of life and providing hospitality to those who visit makes the difference between repeat customers for years to come or a bad review on Yelp. Hope Lutheran has had the opportunity to be the host to summer visitors. We welcomed a group from Alabama, led by Joan Messersmith, who spent a week exploring Maine and then spending time with us on Sunday to share in the Divine Service and bible study prepared by Pastor Akers. Such a pleasant surprise when we were told that they made up part of the choir at their church and so many voices were heard singing that day.

Deaconess Sandra Rhein was also visiting family in the Blue Hill area, so Becky Reeve, Deaconess Slininger, and Deaconess Rhein got together at Helen's Restaurant in Ellsworth for a great meal and conversation. Deaconess Rhein is the Sacred Music Educator in Asia for the LCMS, and travels to Asia to assist in putting together hymnals for developing churches. She brought with her copies of the hymnals for Ethiopia, Taiwan (done in Mandarin Chinese), and Uganda. No trip to Ellsworth is complete without a visit to LL Bean and the Rooster Brothers kitchen shop!

To be served:

This past spring, Hope members Becky Reeve, Gailene Friedly, and Deaconess Slininger attended the NED-LWML Conference in Massachusetts. The day started early, and we arrived just a little bit late, but were quickly involved in the activities of the Conference. Deaconess Slininger presented the Mission Outreach of Hope Lutheran Church, Hope for Healing (formerly Spirit Warrior) to the members of the Conference and we had a great time joining in fellowship with other women of the LWML. In honor of 80 years of the LWML, 324 pairs of shoes were collected for the Gbarnga Lutheran Training Center, Gbarnga, Liberia.

The next event was the NED Convention, held in Springfield Massachusetts. Brenda Bacon and Deaconess Conover were excellent hostesses, making sure that everyone got where they needed to be and got what they needed. Deaconess Slininger was the Lay Person to represent Hope Lutheran. Three days of Fellowship, voting, and singing showed that the LCMS is strong in New England, but there are many smaller churches that need revitalization. At Hope Lutheran we understand that position within the district. Congratulations to those who were voted into their new positions on the Board.

Hope Lutheran Cont'd.

Becky, James, Kim and Gailene have been working weekly on managing the small memorial garden at the VFW Hall. This was pretty run down when we started, and it took some time to determine what was a weed and what was not. James did the heavy lifting of the mulch and carrying it to the garden. After service we head out to pull weeds and water the small garden. Many thanks to Curtis who drives the bucket of water needed from the kitchen to the garden!



Prayer List

It was asked if we could start a prayer list for our members. Becky added that list to the back page of the bulletin.

Bob Wochner, Curtis's Brother-In-Law who was diagnosed with cancer

Paul Irish and his family

Gailene Friedly and her family

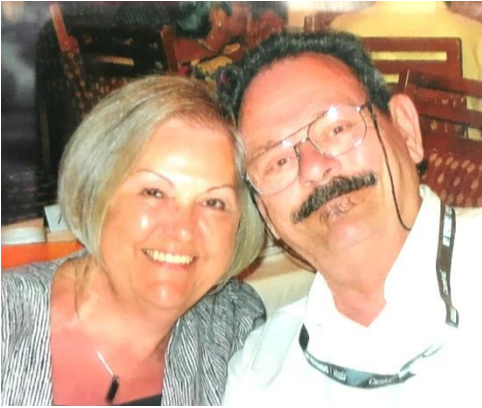
LCMS Missionaries

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

Pastor Akers and his family

Hope Lutheran Church as we work together with Lutheran Church of the Resurrection to determine the future goals for Hope Lutheran and the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection.

Hope Lutheran Church meets weekly at the VFW Post located at 41 Canoe Club Road in Hampden at 10:15 for the live service stream of service from Waterville. We meet the first and third Sunday of the month at 3pm for Communion and bible study with Pastor Akers.



Member of the Month – Gail Carrano

Gail Noonan was born during a hurricane in Milford, Connecticut; thus her mom thought she should be named Gail Storm Noonan—but her father wouldn't hear of it—so Gail Lorraine it was! Gail grew up in Milford with four siblings: Sharon (the oldest), then Gail, and finally Kenneth, Sheila & Michael. The children were awakened each morning for school in the order that their clothes were ironed! They'd have a quick breakfast and be out the door to the school bus. When Sharon went to live with a nearby aunt, Gail led the crew, trying to be a good example—though Kenny and Sheila were a handful!

Gail's family was Catholic—so “Dad would take us twice a year on Easter & Christmas”—Mom sent us to catechism and three of the children made their First Holy Communion. However, Gail was the only one to be confirmed a few years later. At about eight years old, Gail decided she wanted to attend church on Sundays. While she was attempting to do so one Sunday, a neighbor saw her and after ascertaining it was okay with Gail's parents, drove Gail to church with them. Gail believes that is where her faith began. She remained Catholic until she married Art, then became Lutheran.

Gail's first paying job was after school in a laundromat. It was the same one her mom & aunt worked in while her mom was expecting Gail. When Gail started employment, her aunt was still working there. Gail considered that a bonus as her aunt was training her and working with her and Gail even got to learn the cashier position. After graduation from Jonathan Law High School in Milford, Gail had various jobs: She worked in retail stores, had an office position, drove a school bus, and worked in the Bic Pen factory—but always wanting to be a nurse. Gail did become a Certified Nursing Assistant: She worked at a nursing home, an at-home hospice service, and a few private duty positions even while working at the local hospital. Gail began nursing school working toward her RN, but quickly changed her mind after the death of her oldest sister: She just wanted to stay at the CNA level rendering hands-on care of people and trying to brighten their days. Her husband encouraged her to go back and get her degree, but it was not what she wanted. Gail lovingly cared for people as a CNA for 23 years, saying, “My heart was full of happiness and my wallet, through the grace of God, always managed!”

Gail and Art met about 1977-1978 in a hallway of Park City Hospital where they were both patients. Though they chatted a bit when they met, they never saw or spoke to each other again until late December 1981 when Art called to offer Gail condolences upon the passing of her father. They began dating and were married May 4, 1985 at Salem Lutheran Church in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Art had three children: A daughter, Shawn; and two sons, Artie and Shane. Gail was just delighted to be wed and have children all within an hour! She says, “We had work all week, children all weekend, and with the ups and downs of life, I couldn't have been more blessed!”

Art did active duty in the U.S. Navy and then Reserves for a total of 26 years of service. He worked at three different companies: Bullard Company, Sikorsky Aviation, and then Pratt & Whitney. Art also opened two businesses of his own. First a sandblasting company—and when Art was off to the Reserves, or his full-time job, working second shift—Gail stepped in as receptionist and also learned to do some of the smaller pieces like frosting lenses to go over ceiling lights. This was a large part of the business. When the work became too difficult because of Art's bad back, the business was closed and Art opened a bait and tackle store which he named Fisherman's Quarters. He was in his glory as he loves to fish! Art added fly fishing to what was there and taught classes. Gail stepped in to run the store for him when he was teaching. She says, “Yes, I would come in in my white uniform, and change to my jeans. I had to learn, though; because I was terrified of live eels, sand worms, etc”. Gail says she did get good at putting new lines on reels after two errors which Art had to fix: She says the fishermen know what she did—“Yes, wound it all on backwards!” Gail says she has to admit, she really did become happy there...meeting new people, watching young children come in with parents or grandparents for their first fishing poles and tackle, and seeing Art involved every year in the local children's fishing Derby. The store was a weigh-in station for the adult derbies...but only Art handled the scale. The business was sold when the Carrano's moved, but it was a very successful venture.

In 2000 the Carrano's moved to Belgrade, Maine. In Maine, Gail held positions at Pearle Vision and Maine Eye Care. She also worked for Belgrade Health Center in medical records; and after retirement, Gail assisted the director of Belgrade Community Center three days per week for a few years.

The children grew up in Connecticut and each developed their own lives: Shawn (a dental receptionist for many years) married Bill (a U.S. Postal Service employee) and together they did greyhound dog rescue for many years. They live in Pelzer, South Carolina; now Shawn is a denials and appeals specialist at the local hospital and Bill remains with the Post Office. They currently have seven cats, and have become aware that they cannot save all animals in the world! Artie married Sookie and lives in Spokane, Washington. He is a retired probation officer and Sookie is a talented artist/designer, presently working with Old World Christmas. They have one daughter: Mia is 16 and Gail, as a totally unbiased bystander says, "She's smart as a whip and just adorable!" Shane is single and is a chief in the U.S. Navy. He's currently Retired Navy and serving as logistics for the Department of the Navy while living in Virginia, and during spare time, is an avid golfer!

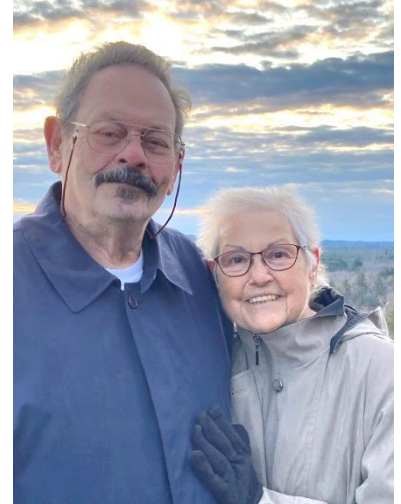
In Maine, it took Gail three tries to find LCR: Two weeks in a row she ended up at the wrong place (no GPS or cell phones). Finally, Gail called the church and Pastor Nielsen graciously gave exact directions—so week three "landed me home with my long-time, loving church family." Although Art chose a different path about 6 years ago, Gail feels "happy and secure right where I am."

In 2019, the Carranos moved to Waterville. Gail learned the neighborhood during her daily walks—which she slowly increased to 4-5 miles per day: Through her walks, she has met several very nice people. She is no longer able to take these walks due to health issues, but has not given up hope of getting back to them even if only a few miles per day. Gail says, "With God, all things are possible."

Though Gail has worked hard all of her life, she has taken time for hobbies she enjoys and volunteering. Her hobbies have included snow shoeing, kayaking, knitting, crocheting, quilting, and reading. Along with Gail's own hobbies, she's been involved in one of Art's loves: wood carving. Art's been carving, making characters and such, for more than 20 years. Art started with just a little pocket knife and a branch from a tree at their Belgrade home. He eventually joined a carver's group, learning and sharing the craft. Gail has been his chief (only!) painter of his work—using acrylics and varnishes to finish the pieces, which are sometimes shown/sold at craft fairs. Gail has done volunteer work in a knitting group at the Methodist Church in Belgrade, making prayer shawls for the past 20 years, and while doing so, making wonderful friendships. She also spent 20 years volunteering with Friends of Belgrade Library, which she says was fun and challenging, as they took the library from a room in the community center to purchasing, gutting, and creating a free-standing library out of an old farmhouse. This group turned out a gorgeous, quaint, sweet, country library for the town.

At LCR Gail has worked in various capacities in the Shelter food program; been active in LWML for many years, especially as a short-term secretary, helping the Sunshine Committee, and working on crafts for the Christmas Fair. She did try helping create the bulletins for a while, but realized it was not her forte, so bowed out. Gail has also been dedicated to her Bible study. It is difficult for Gail in her current illness as she has had to curtail some of these activities she loves.

Gail's life has been filled with a deep faith and she loves being with and talking with all of her Christian friends! Her advice to the young would be to "Do your very best in everything—giving the extra effort so you know you did as well as you could." In speaking to seniors, she feels this very close to home: "Don't keep putting your enjoyment off: DO IT NOW...don't wait until 'later'...don't wait until retirement." Gail's love of our Lord shines in her love of His people, and we are blessed that she finally, on her third try, found Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Waterville!





Monthly Worship

September 4, 2022

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Psalm: 146

Old Testament: Isaiah 29:17-24

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 3:4-11

Holy Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

September 11, 2022

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Psalm: 329

Old Testament: 2 Chronicles 28:8-15

Epistle: Galatians 3:15-22

Holy Gospel: Luke 10:23-37

September 18, 2022

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Psalm: 119:9-16

Old Testament: Proverbs 4:10-23

Epistle: Galatians 5:16-24

Holy Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

September 25, 2022

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Psalm: 146

Old Testament: 1 Kings 17:8-16

Epistle: Galatians 5:25-6:10

Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:24-34

BIBLE QUIZ

1. How did the Hebrews conquer Jericho?
 - A. The walls fell down.
 - B. An angel opened the city gates at night.
 - C. The inhabitants converted to Judaism.
 - D. The city burned to the ground.
2. What did Paul temporarily suffer when Jesus struck him down on the road to Damascus?
 - A. Scrofula
 - B. Deafness
 - C. Blindness
 - D. Muteness
3. What reason does Jesus give for allowing Mary to anoint him with expensive perfumed oil?
 - A. The poor will always be with you.
 - B. The time to glorify the Son of man is come.
 - C. Money given in worship should not be questioned.
 - D. A woman may spend her money as she pleases.
4. In Romans 1, against whom does Paul say the wrath of God will be revealed?
 - A. Those who deny Christ.
 - B. Those who dwell in the darkness of their own heart.
 - C. Those who seek the glory of other men.
 - D. Those who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.
5. From what kind of wood was the Ark of the Covenant made?
 - A. Sandalwood
 - B. Pine
 - C. Cedar
 - D. Acacia



9/2 Chris Batson
 9/4 Adolph Galonski
 9/12 Becky Cote
 Andrew Farr
 9/18 Frankie Ouellette
 9/19 Olive Grierson
 9/22 Alarik Morris
 9/26 Richard Kubeck



9/1 Charlie & Jenifer MacPherson
 9/8 Pastor Ben & Amber Akers
 9/19 Fred & Amy Ouellette
 9/22 Richard & Marie Kubeck
 9/27 Jared & Amanda Goldsmith



9/3 Nathanael Batson
 9/15 Marie Kubeck
 9/20 Lois Doran
 9/21 Chris Batson
 9/30 Frankie Ouellette
 9/?? Sharon Klipp

BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1. A. (Joshua 6:20)
2. C. (Acts 9:8-9)
3. A. (John 12:8)
4. D. (Romans 1:18)
5. D. (Exodus 25:10-16)



~ ~ ~

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. 'Is there anything breakable in here?' asked the postal clerk. 'Only the Ten Commandments.' answered the lady.

~ ~ ~

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: 'I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses.' When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note 'I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation.'

~ ~ ~

While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage.

The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign... 'Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust.'

~ ~ ~

A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, 'Boys and girls, what do we know about God?' A hand shot up in the air. 'He is an artist!' said the kindergarten boy. Really? How do you know?' the teacher asked. 'You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven...'