



# *Life Line*

*October 2011*

*New Life Lutheran Church*

249 N. Bolingbrook Dr., Bolingbrook, IL 60440

Tel: 630.759.7636 Fax: 630.759.7790

[www.newlifebolingbrook.com](http://www.newlifebolingbrook.com)

*Where everybody is somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord!*

## All Saints Day



They will receive blessing from the Lord  
and vindication from the God  
of their salvation. Psalm 24.5

**All Saints Sunday is November 6th.**

Please contact the office with names of those that have passed into new life this past year and all those who have been baptized this year.



Pastor Paul and I spent a few days last week at the synod's yearly Professional Leader's Conference. It's a time for pastors and other rostered leaders to hear a good speaker, attend worship without leading it, and see friends who don't live close by. It's a good time.

The speaker was a man named Thomas Long; he is a professor of preaching and worship and of course all us pastor types were all ears for the latest idea on how to get congregations to listen. One of the tidbits he shared that keeps rolling around in my mind though, has little to do with what my preaching style is or isn't.

He said, "Every time the congregation gathers to worship, each person should be able to look around and see someone they would not otherwise be in the same room with, unless it was to praise God." I thought about that. Is it true for you? When you look around at New Life, be it at a committee meeting, be it in your row at worship, be it standing by the donuts in the fellowship hall, do you see people you'd likely not know in other areas of your life?

This is not meant to say we're looking for people we don't like. We're looking for people simply *not like us*. A different age group. A different economic status. A different family style. A different idea of fun on a Saturday night. A different political bent. A different understanding of church, participation, and faith.

And Thomas Long's point was: this is evidence of the church at its best, being what only the Holy Spirit can make it to be. Only the Holy Spirit can gather a diverse group of folks *and then have it work out!*

Maybe you've noticed Pastor Paul and myself are quite different. **Praise God!** The Holy Spirit sure knew what it was doing when you all called me here three years ago. Pastor Paul doesn't use sermon notes or a pulpit. I use both! Pastor Paul's nemesis is his email. I love flying through emails. Pastor Paul has over 30 years of pastoral wisdom, hard-won confidence in the presence of God in tough times and also what I covet most—just knowing what to do next when it is utterly unclear to me. I've got 3.

Maybe you've noticed the 8:00 style of worship is musically very different from the 11:00 style of worship. **Praise God!** The Holy Spirit moves powerfully at all services, nudging us all along in faith, reminding us of who we are (God's children) and that faith and living are complicated matters. And 8:00 will do this with "thy kingdom come" and hymns that can make you cry. 11:00 does this with "your kingdom come" and electronic songs that make you want to clap.

I hope you noticed lots of differences when you look around New Life. Lots of ways to praise God. Lots of ways to serve God. Lots of ways to be children of God. And when you notice a difference, maybe of opinion, or preference, or lifestyle, know the Holy Spirit is alive and well, *in our very church!* Praise God!

**Pastor Rakel**

Greetings New Life Members,  
Activity at New Life continues to be strong. I attended two bible studies in September – Wednesday evenings we had the 'Taste & See' session while on Sunday morning we have a series 'Surveying the New Testament'. In one session we learned how to use a manuscript style of reading bible passages to better understand the message being provided. The New Testament survey provides a glimpse of the various books, their historical setting, important highlights, along with background information that is not provided in the verses. Both of these series were engaging with great leadership. We are very blessed and privileged to have leaders among us that can share their knowledge and skill. It is my hope that more of us take advantage of these opportunities to enrich our knowledge in the bible.



Earlier this year, we provided a temple talk regarding the spending plan and that the congregational contributions may be falling a bit short of expectations. Since that time, contributions have vastly improved and we are maintaining a good pace with regards to our spending plan. We are so thankful and blessed by the dedication and faithful stewardship of the people of New Life.

Your Council is busy working with the New Life committees and groups with the goals of the New Ministry Plan. As I write this letter, Council is making final preparations for the first Leadership Gathering where each Committee will present their goals for the next 12 months. We are all excited with this opportunity to share different goals and activities in a setting of this nature. Congregational members are encouraged to attend and learn first hand about our committees.

There continues to be a high level of different activities at New Life for members to join. Check in with a Council member, the Pastors, or the Church office if you are interested in helping to make a difference.

Your servant in Christ

*Jack Schlea*

## **New Life Tutor Program**

We are blessed to have an abundance of students this year and **are in need of additional tutors**. We have availability for both nights so if you are available please call the Tutor Leadership team, Cheryl Deardorff, #630-985-7972, Bob Dominiak, #630-679-9684 or Daryl Giganti #630-759-7206.

## Youth Ministry Calendar Summer—Fall 2011

More information on all events comes out to respective groups as dates draw near. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk with identified youth ministry liaisons:

Amy Beaugard—J.A.B. Coordinator (6-8<sup>th</sup> grade)

Ms. June

Joe Moles—S.U.P.P.L.Y Coordinator (9-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Pastor Rakel

Tina & Jim Blumenstein—SSAY Coordinators (VBS ages)

Sally Minor—Confirmation Leader

Julie Selep—Sunday School

Beth Girardier - Youth Education Coordinator

### October

2<sup>nd</sup> SUPPLY Youth Group

16<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY Youth Group

23<sup>rd</sup> JAB Night

29<sup>th</sup> Bibles and Bagels (3<sup>rd</sup> graders)

30<sup>th</sup> Confirmation (9<sup>th</sup> graders)

### November

4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> LOMC Confirmation Retreat (Confirmation - JAB)

6<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY Youth Group

20<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY Youth Group

27<sup>th</sup> NO Sunday School

### December

4<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY Youth Group

8<sup>th</sup> Confirmation - JAB Christmas Caroling

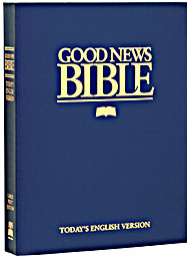
17<sup>th</sup> Sunday School Christmas Program

18<sup>th</sup> SUPPLY Cantata Breakfast

### Confirmation/JAB Night

**Our first *youth* night gathering is on Sunday, October 23rd from 6:30-8pm in the youth house.** We will be talking about our youth events/ projects for the upcoming Confirmation/JAB year. Please bring a beverage for yourself and snacks will be provided. All 6, 7 and 8th grade youth are welcome and encouraged to join us. See you there!!!

Amy Beaugard



## Bibles and Bagels with 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and Parent(s)



Receiving your first Bible is a big deal!  
It is a wonderful book.

It is a confusing book.

*(what's the deal with all the little books inside?)*

To have fun with its wonderfulness and figure out some of its confusing parts, ***all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and at least one parent are invited to participate in Bibles and Bagels. It will be Saturday, October 29 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall*** Bring your Bibles and Pastor Raket will bring the Bagels. RSVP with Ms. June or Pastor Raket

## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** ***"The Shoebox Christmas"***

One of the first Bible verses that many of us learned as children was John 3:16. *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life"*. That best provides the inspiration behind Operation Christmas Child, the unique worldwide outreach of Samaritan's Purse. Each year, they share God's love with millions of poor, sick, and suffering children by hand-delivering shoe boxes filled with toys, school supplies, candy, and other gifts. Along with the gifts, millions of children also receive Gospel booklets in their own language. Since 1993 over 61 million shoebox gifts have been distributed worldwide to 95 countries. These Christmas presents not only bring joy to precious boys and girls; they also open hearts to hear about God's greatest gift – His Son, Jesus Christ.



We will be taking part in this exciting project thru our Sunday school classes. **Now thru November 19th we will be collecting shoeboxes and small items to fill these boxes. On November 20th our Sunday school children will be assembling these boxes to be delivered to our local OCC drop off location.** Even if you do not have a child in Sunday school you can still participate by donating empty shoeboxes, small items or by making a monetary donation to offset shipping costs. A listing of needed items is available in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Chris Miller 630-417-0419.



## Have A Cow for Christmas!

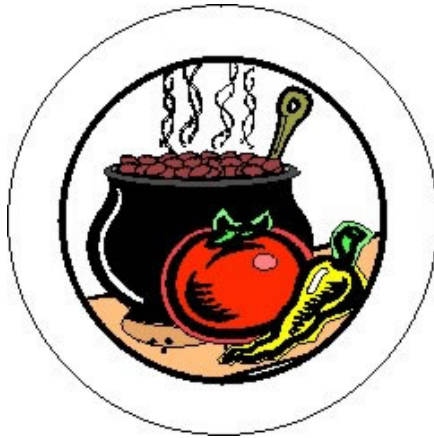
No, we don't mean invite Olie over for Christmas dinner (although he'd probably like that as long as he wasn't on the menu!) - All through Advent (beginning Sunday, Nov. 27) you'll have the opportunity to purchase some rather unique Christmas gifts for your loved ones & all those hard-to-buy-for people on your Christmas list - barnyard animals! Make a donation to ELCA's God's Global Barnyard and the animal(s) of your choice will be donated to a poverty-stricken village somewhere in the world. You'll receive a special card to present to your loved one announcing the gift you've made in their honor. Gifts come in all price ranges, from \$10 for a dozen chicks - \$500 for a cow. A very fitting way to celebrate the birth of Jesus (He *was* born in a barn, after all) in the truest spirit of the season! See Deb Tomsky if you have any questions in the meantime.

## Help wanted

The newly formed Technology & Communication Committee is looking for a few good members to help us leverage Technology to spread God's message. Our goals are to improve our existing technology, expand the types of technology, and increase the members who can use it. We've been busy coordinating a "shutterbug" group to capture pictures or videos of the many activities here at New Life. And now we're working on upgrading our website. We meet once a month. So if you've got that technology feeling, come and share. We need you. Contact David Thomas at [dwt0207@gmail.com](mailto:dwt0207@gmail.com) for more information

## Loaves of Love

Reach out to new home buyers in Bolingbrook by sharing the good news of New Life Lutheran Church. We'd like your participation in the Loaves of Love ministry. Our next bread delivery date is scheduled for **Sunday, October 30**, after the 11am service. If you would like to participate, please add your name to the sign up poster in the narthex. If you need more information on this program, please contact the church office.



### **Chili Cook Off!**

**Come join us on Sunday, October 23rd for a chili, or soup, cook off and bond fire!** Bring your favorite chili or soup and spread some warmth with family fun and fellowship on a fall day! Festivities will begin around 4 pm. If the weather does not cooperate we'll just move the whole thing in to the fellowship hall! If you have any questions contact TJ Girardier.

*Please keep these and all service members and their families in your prayers.*



**Bob Beckett** - son of Dick & Laurena Beckett. Stationed at Fort Carson.

SPC. Beckett, Robert  
PO Box 13519  
Colorado Springs, CO 80902

**Eric Frederick** - Son of Charles & Vanda Frederick. Deployed in Afghanistan.

PV2 Frederick, Eric P  
HHC Mortars 1 - 24 IN BN, 1-25  
SBCT FOB Lagman  
APO AE 09383

*Please contact the office with information on your loved one that is serving in the military.*

## Catch-Up Sunday October 16

We hope you all had an enjoyable summer filled with fun with family and friends. Summer vacations and activities typically cause lower church attendance and a predictable decline in giving...it is no surprise that it happened again this year here at New Life.

The Stewardship Committee is designating **October 16<sup>th</sup>** as **"Catch-Up Sunday."** We want to both encourage and challenge you as members to catch up on your tithes and offerings that were missed in June, July and August. Many of us did not give each week because our summer plans kept us away from church.

If you are not current in your giving, we urge you to try to get caught up at this time. If you are current with your giving, we invite you to help New Life with a special gift. We also encourage you to consider signing up for our electronic giving program "Simply Giving" which ensures regular, consistent giving by automatically deducting your offering from your bank account.

As you give we believe you will experience the joy that God gives to those who give.

BLESSINGS FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE ON YOUR STEWARDSHIP JOURNEY!

### OCTOBER WORSHIP LEADERS

#### *Greeters*

8:00am	Open
9:30am	Mike & Dawn Morfoot
11:00am	Sue Ellwing Ridley

#### *Worship Assistants*

8:00am	Mike Stoehrmann
9:30am	Josh Schmidt
11:00am	Kristen Schorsch

#### *Ushers*

8:00am	Mike Ferrara, Jenafer Shevlin, Mark & Kathy Kircher
9:30am	Jason & Carole Koronkiewicz, David & Susan Thomas
11:00am	Lisa Mustonen

Volunteers are always needed to help with worship - interested?  
Contact the church office at 630.759.7636 or  
[officemgr@newlifebolingbrook.com](mailto:officemgr@newlifebolingbrook.com)

## **Money Matters** *Personal Financial Stewardship*

### **Investing Wisely**

When you consider investing, you should start by asking, “Why am I investing?” If you are investing to enhance your personal kingdom rather than God’s, you need to rethink your motives. Certainly, you should be investing so you can properly provide for your family and yourself. However, to amass money for your own security while neglecting the needs of the needy and the work of spreading the Gospel would go against God’s plan for your money.

As God’s steward, you acknowledge that it is God’s money that you are entrusted to manage. Because you are a steward, you have the responsibility to honor God with all that you do with your money, which includes investing. With the awareness that it is God’s money and that you will be held accountable for what you do with it, you should question even more:

“How much risk is appropriate?”

“What level of risk is appropriate when investing God’s money?”

Before you are able to invest any money, you must establish an emergency fund that will be accessible immediately in the event of job loss, health problems, or another emergency. This fund should be large enough to sustain you and your family for at least three to six months. After this fund is in place, you are free to invest.

Simply put, there are three categories or types of investments:

- Cash. You can choose to keep cash under your mattress (sort of like the third servant in the Parable of the Talents) or to put your money in bank savings or money market funds. This is a no-risk investment option that provides only a small return.
- Fixed income investments. A fixed income investment occurs when you lend your money to a person or institution. In return for your money, you get the promise of being paid a certain interest rate and the future return of your principal. Examples of this type of investment are bank certificate of deposits (CD’s), corporate bonds, municipal bonds, government bonds, etc. All of these investment vehicles pay interest, and, on specified dates, the principal is returned.
- Equities (growth). Equity refers to an ownership position. If you own stock, you own part of the company. The same pertains to real estate, collectibles, antiques, etc. As an owner, you want the value of what you own to increase. Because mutual funds offer professional management and diversification into stocks of several companies, mutual funds are a good and smart way to invest in a growth investment.

Wise investors make allocations among these three investment choices. As your investments grow, you should place some money in all three categories. The allocation mix among these three will be determined by several factors, such as your current and future needs, goals, age, and dollar amount of investments.

*BLESSINGS FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE ON YOUR STEWARDSHIP JOURNEY*

# Rally Sunday - September 18th



Jello



Fun

Puzzles



## ADULT EDUCATION

Upcoming events and classes for Adult Education:

*Survey of the New Testament* is a six session class that meets at 9:30 am on Sunday in the Genesis Room. The class runs until Sunday October 16th. The class will cover the four Gospels; Book of Acts; Letters of Paul; General Letters; and Revelation. The New Testament is the story of the person and work of Jesus of Nazareth. Learn about the fulfillment of promise and the kingdom of God

*Biblical Stewardship* is scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup> and November 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am Sunday in the Genesis Room. This three session series will focus on relevant topics for our upcoming Fall Stewardship Campaign.

*The Advent Conspiracy* is scheduled for Sunday at 9:30am in the Genesis room beginning November 27<sup>th</sup> for four sessions. If you are tired of how consumerism has stolen the soul of Christmas you will want to attend this class. Learn how to reclaim Christmas and make it what it should be: a joyous celebration of Jesus' birth that enriches our hearts and the world.

Coming January/February 2012

*Book Discussion Forum: The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism by Timothy Keller.*

- Why does God allow suffering in the world?
- How could a loving God send people to Hell?
- Why isn't Christianity more inclusive?
- How can one religion be "right" and the other wrong?
- Why have so many wars been fought in the name of God?

These are just a few of the questions and doubts even strong believers wrestle with today.

If you would like thoughtful, reasoned answers to these questions and more you will want to attend this dynamic forum. The forum will feature a DVD of pastor and author Timothy Keller addressing questions, doubts and objections to Christianity and an opportunity for our own discussion. Look for more information in the coming months.

*Read and study God's word – it is an important faith practice!*

# === Get to Know Us ===

## \* \* THE CARE TEAM \* \*

*Seeking to provide care and compassion to our congregation, our community and the world around us. The Care Team is an expression of faith: a response to God's new commandment in John 13:34-35, "As I have loved you, so you must love one another."*

### YOU DID IT!

Our goal for the blood drive was 35 donors and we surpassed it with a total of 40 donors. In addition, four of those donors were 1st timers! This was our most successful drive ever for New Life. Thank you for giving the gift of life with a blood donation and being a hero today to help save the lives of 120 people tomorrow. (Every unit donated saves three lives.) Next drive is already scheduled for Sunday, November 27. Hope to see everyone again and more!



### COUPON SEMINAR

We hope you were able to pick up a lot of great tips on using coupons and planning a shopping trip at our Coupon Seminar on September 28. But mostly, we hope that you are better equipped to use this knowledge to use your couponing for the greater good! (See the Cart Challenge below!)

THE CART CHALLENGE – *to make our shopping carts in the narthex overflow with blessings for the Dupage Township Food Pantry during the month of October.*

This will take the whole congregation getting involved. It could be as simple as an extra can of soup or as large as a case of macaroni and cheese. Either way, you will be a blessing to the local families served by the food pantry. On average, 500 households use the pantry each month. With the economy still staggering and job losses still mounting, the shelves at the food pantry can be painfully bare. Need some ideas for the shopping list?

- Tuna, peanut butter, pasta, soup, macaroni cheese
- Canned fruit, vegetables, cereal, oatmeal
- Personal toiletries (hotel soap, shampoo, lotion accepted!)
- Pet food and pet needs

You can place your item in the shopping cart in the narthex and we can watch it grow throughout the month! Please remember that these boxes, bags, or cans must be unopened and unexpired.

### TUTORING

New Life tutoring program is up and running in the first week of October. But we can still use your time and talent as a tutor to ensure that we can reach as many students as needed. Let's not have any children on a waiting list! If you are interested in assisting youth in the community reach their greatest potential, please contact Cheryl Deardorff at 630-985-7972. You can choose to serve on Tuesdays from 7:00-8:00 p.m. or Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. or both nights!

### CROP WALK - October 16

Registrations and sponsorships are available now in the narthex every Sunday! There is something for everyone - a 1, 5 and 10k route through Hobson Woods. Even if you can't walk or can't be there that day, please consider sponsoring another New Life walker.

Last year, Team New Life raised a record amount of \$2,802.00 by 34 walkers. This year we have the opportunity to get an **EXTRA** \$250 added to our overall total if we increase our dollars raised or number of walkers by 25%. That means we need 43 walkers or raise \$3,503.00. With your help, we think it can be done!

The annual walk helps hungry families locally through the [Loaves and Fishes](#) food pantry in Naperville and the [Northern Illinois Food Bank](#), a regional food distribution center, and helps hungry families around the world through [Church World Service](#).

### HOME OF THE BRAVE

Last Call!! All summer we received your submissions of our local heroes from New Life who have served as firefighters, police officers or in the military. If you forgot or didn't get around to it or didn't see the request, now's your chance. We would like any additional people to submit their information before November. Please call the church office or Susan Brown to share your information.

### HOSPITAL SISTERS MISSION OUTREACH

If you have been able to participate in this hands-on service opportunity, thank you. If you haven't, there is one more group outing scheduled for this year on Saturday, December 3. Come along with other New Life members and bring your friends. This is a great outreach opportunity! A group will be traveling to the warehouse in Bedford Park of the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis from 9:00-Noon. You will be sorting medical supplies to be refurbished and redistributed to organizations world-wide in need. This is a great example of what it truly means to be "green". Still not sure? Please talk with Daryl and Joe Giganti or Pastor Paul about their hands on experience.

## CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION

AVAILABLE NOW AND EVERYDAY AT CHURCH:

- **newspaper/white paper/magazine** recycling are available in green/yellow bin at the north end of the parking lot at church.
- **Pop tabs** are recycled to benefit Ronald McDonald House. White bucket is available in the fellowship hall next to the pop machine.
- **Plastic caps** from beverage containers are being collected to be recycled into tubing for dialysis machines. They are located in a tote in the fellowship hall by the kitchen.

## HUNGER FACTS



Over 1 billion people are hungry worldwide. That's one out of every seven people in the world.

Each day almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes – one in every five seconds.

People are hungry in the United States, too. If all 36.2 million Americans faced with food insecurity stood in line at a food pantry in New York, the line would

stretch to Los Angeles and back.

The Naperville Area CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Walk is an ecumenical and interfaith effort of nearly 20 Naperville area congregations including New Life Lutheran and organizations to help hungry families in our community and around the world. The annual walk helps hungry families locally through the [Loaves and Fishes](#) food pantry in Naperville and the [Northern Illinois Food Bank](#), a regional food distribution center, and helps hungry families around the world through [Church World Service](#). When natural disasters or war affects any part of our world, Church World Service responds with both short term and long term assistance. In the last 28 years, the Naperville Area CROP Walk has raised **\$1,066,650**

You, your family & friends, your neighbors and other caring people in thousands of communities across the country can help by walking or sponsoring a walker in a CROP Hunger Walk

WALK – On Sunday, October 16, we will have a team of walkers representing New Life. This walk is for everyone; young and young-at-heart, singles, couples, families, small groups, etc. The walk takes place at Grace United Methodist Church in Naperville. Registration is at 1 p.m. and the step-off begins at 1:30 p.m. for the 1, 5, or 10K walk. Please register in the narthex on Sunday, Sept. 25, Oct. 2 or Oct. 9. You will receive your form to start collecting sponsors. Walkers can also raise money online with a personalized web page. It's

easy to sign-up. Go to [www.napervillecropwalk.org](http://www.napervillecropwalk.org) and join the New Life Team.

SPONSOR – Even if you don't walk, you can take a step to end hunger. You can sponsor a New Life walker. Look at the display in the narthex of who is walking and contact them personally to give your contribution. Or stop by the narthex on Sundays to give a contribution to the team from New Life. Or contribute online at [www.napervillecropwalk.org](http://www.napervillecropwalk.org) for the team from New Life.

If you have any questions about walking or sponsoring a walker, please contact;

Laurie Freeman – congregational co-chair (630-312-8359)

Dawn Morfoot – congregational co-chair (630-640-8318)

Susan Brown – Care Team chairperson (815-588-3561)

Pastor Paul - [office@newlifebolingbrook.com](mailto:office@newlifebolingbrook.com)

Hungry people in developing countries typically walk as much as six miles a day to get food, water and fuel, and to take their goods to market. We walk to be in solidarity with their struggle for existence. We walk because we want to end hunger – **one step at a time.**



*Some of New Life's 2010 Walkers!*

Plan to attend this year's **Discipleship Gatherings: "Communication and the Congregation - What Would Jesus Tweet?"** Every congregational member is encouraged to attend this Gathering which will provide an opportunity for lay and rostered leaders to gather together and learn more about a powerful evangelism tool – communication!

The Gathering for the East Conference is:

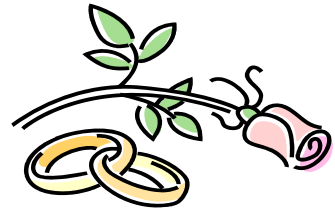
- Tues., 10/11 – Faith, Joliet - 7pm (with Fall Mission Support Consultation)  
353 N. Midland Ave - Joliet, IL 60435  
815-725-4213

## **Daylight Savings Time Ends**



**Sunday, November 6th!**

## *October Anniversaries*



- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jay & April Kolder
- 5<sup>th</sup> Joe & Daryl Giganti
- 7<sup>th</sup> Bevin & Frank Filippo
- 10<sup>th</sup> Fred & Brenda Roeber  
Joe & Dana Sulkson
- 11<sup>th</sup> Tim & Carrie Lowe
- 14<sup>th</sup> Jim & Patti Cassidy
- 15<sup>th</sup> Suzanne & Dave Schorsch
- 16<sup>th</sup> Sean & Jen Fredrick  
Mark & Kathy Kircher
- 17<sup>th</sup> Jason & Carol Koronkiewicz
- 21<sup>st</sup> Patty & David Brasier  
Dan & Diane Kloepfer
- 26<sup>th</sup> Dick & JeanLou Hess
- 29<sup>th</sup> Mike & Sandy Niemiera

If you do not see your name & date here  
please let the church office know. Thanks