Welcome to Fall Worship, Programs & Ministry Opportunities at Christ Church

Welcome Sunday is September 7. Come to eucharist worship at 9:30 am. All are welcome!

We love having children of all ages in worship and encourage their presence and participation. Look for updated bags for kids at the back of the sanctuary—they’re full of good things to help children stay involved during worship. There will be nursery care for ages 0–3 during worship, if parents need it. If children ages 3–6 need to leave worship after Sermon on the Steps, there will be an activity for them in the red room; they will rejoin worship at the passing of the peace.

After worship on Welcome Sunday, enjoy some refreshments as you meet and greet friends old and new and catch up on your summers. Then stroll the atrium and hallways of the education building where there will be an activities fair. Find people to talk to and tables with information about our fall programs and ministry opportunities.

Welcome Sunday is also “God’s Work, Our Hands Day” in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. As part of our participation in this nationwide ELCA day of service, we’ll be putting together personal hygiene care packages for Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, specifically for their Metro Homeless Youth programs. Come and put your hands to work on God’s behalf.

Educational forums begin Sunday 14 September, meeting from 11:15am to 12:15pm in the Kretzmann Room on the lower level of the education building. Here is information about the upcoming forums in September:

September 14—*A Theology of the Cross*, Pastor Haaland
This day is Holy Cross Day, a festival that we’ll be celebrating in worship. It therefore seems appropriate that we explore a topic at the heart of our Lutheran tradition: the theology of the cross. When Pastor Haaland was at Holden Village, theologian and biblical scholar Fred Niedner (great-grandson of CCL’s founding pastor) offered his own “theses” on the theology of the cross. Explore the radical theology that is at the heart of our tradition through the teaching of Dr. Niedner.

September 21—*Loving the World God So Loves*, Susan Briehl
“My work is loving the world,” begins Mary Oliver’s poem *The Messenger*, a poem appropriate for this day when many will gather in New York City for the Climate March. Together we will read this “nature poem” closely, looking at its bones, listening to its rhythm, exploring its sources, and following its lead into our own baptismal vocations. Susan Briehl is a pastor, teacher, poet, and hymnwriter living in Spokane, Washington.

September 28 – On this day we welcome a representative from the Metro Homeless Youth program of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota. LSS runs the SafeHouse shelter that we help support with care packages, financial gifts, and monthly meals. Learn what LSS is doing to provide safety and hope to some of the most vulnerable among us. Then, come to a festive “shelter meal” lunch after the forum—a fundraiser for the meals the mission committee prepares for SafeHouse and Our Saviour’s Shelter. Details will follow in Sunday bulletins. Look for a sign-up sheet, too, or call the church office for more information.

Welcome back. Welcome home. See you in church.

—Pastors Carlson and Haaland
**Staff**

**Pastors**  
Pastor Kristine Carlson  
Pastor Erik Haaland  
Pastor Robert Farlee  
Pastor Martin Seltz  
Stephanie Okoneski  
Chuck Merrell  
Josh Messner

**Council Officers**

President  
Bob Victorin-Vangerud

Vice President  
Dan Mueller

Secretary  
Naomi Bruesehoff

Treasurer  
Melody Pauling

**Council Members**

Pat Baehler  
Kevin Reuther  
Ann Davis  
Luann Skrivseth  
Hilary Gebauer  
Will Stark

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**Announcements**

**Retirees**

On Wednesday 24 September at 11:00am, the retirees will gather for a program to be determined. Potluck lunch will follow. Everyone is welcome. Meet in the Concordia Room.

**Wedding**

Jan Radloff and Gene Bruss were married at Christ Church on Saturday 30 August. Pastor Carlson presided.

The happy couple! Groom Gene Bruss and bride Jan Radloff requested no gifts for them at their recent Christ Church Lutheran wedding. Instead, they asked guests to bring food items for Community Emergency Services—a partner of ours in serving the poor of our community. Three hundred seventy-five pounds of food were collected and brought to CES.
**Finances Update**

The finance committee wants to provide you with the most current information about our congregation’s finances. In addition to other communications, we will provide a quick report on the state of our operating budget in each issue of *The Courier*.

Our finances are in good shape—thanks to Ole and Lena’s fundraising, the utilities deficit is taken care of. The member (envelope) giving deficit is holding steady (very good for summer), although we hope to start making it up in the fall. We are very close to breaking even with income vs. expenses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>as of July 31, 2014</th>
<th>ACTUAL</th>
<th>BUDGET (7 mos.)</th>
<th>DIFFERENCE</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Member Giving/ Envelopes</strong></td>
<td>$152,451.02</td>
<td>$160,683.25</td>
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<td><strong>Other Income</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Surplus (or Deficit)</strong></td>
<td>$779.08</td>
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**Helping Hands**

**September/October**

Jeff Adams & Denise Morelock
Darrell & Jeanne Anderson
Mary Bode
Ben Cherland
Gary & Stephanie Gustafson
Wynn & Marilyn Johnston
Jeannette Kretzmann
Donna Lindberg
Josh & Sally Messner
Dan & Sharon Mueller
MariLu Peters
Pat Solie
Dick Thompson
Marion Williams

If you are named in the June helping hands chart, please help with Sunday morning coffee fellowship in the form of set up, clean up, or treats. Contact Michael Jefferis for details. michael.jefferis@gmail.com

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**Be Happy—Sing in the Choir!**

Here at Christ Church, we are blessed with a wonderful choir. It helps the assembly sing their parts, it adds beauty with its own music, it makes for richer worship for us all. Every once in a while, the choir also stretches a bit to take on a larger work, like a cantata in our music series. What’s more, as any member can tell you, it’s a fun group to be in. We genuinely welcome all who can carry a tune.

And as the new program year begins, we invite you to consider joining. But if the reasons above aren’t enough, here’s another: singing in a choir makes you happy. In recent years, researchers have found that group singing releases all kinds of good chemicals into your bloodstream, ones with names like endorphins and dopamine and serotonin and oxytocin. There’s even one called s-IgA, an immunoglobulin that enhances our immune system.

I can testify that it’s true for me—I can’t count the times that I have returned from choir rehearsal noticeably happier than when I went. So, come and give it a try! Come on Thursday evening at 7:00—we’ll welcome you at the door. If you want to talk about it first, see Pastor Seltz or me.

—Pastor Farlee
From the 15 July Council Meeting

In lieu of reproducing the minutes of each council meeting, we are offering highlights. Complete minutes are always available for review from the church office.

The council does not always meet in July, but we did this year in order to consider the report of the capital campaign task force. The meeting opened with a devotion on Matthew 6:25-34 (“Why do you worry about what you will eat or wear?”). Members of the council shared reactions to the text, which was read several times.

After approving the minutes of our June meeting, we heard a request from the property committee that any money raised beyond the $10,000 goal in the campaign to cover gas expenses be set aside for future spikes in energy expenses. The council was generally in favor of the proposal but deferred specific action until November, when we would have a better sense of the exact numbers involved in our energy expenses for the year.

Dan Mueller presented the report from the capital campaign task force, after which the council approved its recommendations. The members of the task force are Mary Bode, Gene Bruss, Birgitte Christianson, Pastor Carlson, Hilary Gebauer, Liz and Roger Gomoll, Dan Mueller, Will Stark, and Bob Victorin-Vangerud. The task force recommends undertaking a capital campaign beginning in 2015 to raise funds for projects in three areas: a new organ, various projects needed to maintain our building, and a mission project.

1. The organ task force is in the process of researching what instrument would be best for our sanctuary and the hope is that the council can forward their recommendation for consideration at the regular December meeting of the congregation.

2. The Historic Structures Report describes the conclusions of an architectural survey of important maintenance needs for our building. This report will serve as the basis for the recommended building projects in the capital campaign, but the final list will be determined after consultation with members of the congregation and is open to other projects that are strongly supported by the congregation.

3. The mission project is included at the request of the council, with the purpose of showing gratitude for the gift of $650,000 from Doris and Dick Gliem. The task force recommended that the amount for this mission project be set at 10% of total giving to the campaign by the congregation and that the mission committee be charged with producing a menu of possible ways to direct this money. The money from the Gliems will be devoted entirely to the organ and the building, as they requested. As with the building portion of the campaign, the final list of mission projects will be defined after a process of information gathering meetings with the congregation.

Kevin Reuther proposed that we investigate the possibility of including some energy saving interventions to the list of possible building projects with the goal of reducing our carbon footprint. This goal would serve our mission as a congregation to exercise stewardship of creation. The council approved the formation of a task force to gather information about possible projects.

We heard reports from our pastors and various committees. There is much good work going on at Christ Church Lutheran. As always we welcome your advice and counsel.

From the 19 August Council Meeting

Hilary Gebauer opened our August meeting with devotions, reading a poem by Wendell Berry called “Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front.” We had a good conversation about the poem.

Pastor Carlson announced that Christ Church Lutheran will receive a gift of $35,346.82 from the estate of Betty J. Anderson. Ms. Anderson made no stipulations about what to do with the money. (You can find an article elsewhere in this newsletter about her and her gift.) The council received the news thankfully and agreed to discuss the best use of this money at our September meeting.

We approved a request from the preservation committee to retain MacDonald and Mack Architects for the pre-design phase for a group of projects in the courtyard
and entrance area of the church building. These projects include actions to eliminate water problems, repair the entranceway, and, we hope, make our building handicap accessible. MacDonald and Mack would provide drawings and cost estimates. These plans are necessary for the development of plans for a capital campaign.

Note: Between the July and August meetings of the council, we decided via email, at the request of the capital campaign task force, to form a task force to oversee the building projects we anticipate over the next few years. The group is formed at this time because their input will be important as we make decisions regarding building renovations. This task force has been assembled and includes Bob Davis, Jody McGuire, Rita Schoenike, and Will Stark.

We approved a request from the children’s education task force to hire a teacher for the children’s Sunday school and to hire staff for the nursery on Sundays. A number of appropriate trust funds were identified as sources for the funds.

We heard updates from two other task forces. The organ task force has been busy travelling to various churches in the area and beyond to listen to organs. This is part of the process of deciding what kind of organ to recommend to the congregation, ideally at our December congregation meeting. The capital campaign task force reported on its plans for the next few months.

We considered reports from our pastors and a number of committees. We were disappointed to hear that the application to the Lilly Endowment for a grant for a pastoral/congregational sabbatical didn’t succeed, in spite of the fine portfolio the pastoral support committee put together. The summer fund drive to cover the big surge in heating costs from last winter was a success, exceeding the $10,000 goal. Also, the new stand for our temporary font is in place and looks beautiful.

As always, we adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer. We have many talented and committed people serving in this congregation, for which I’m thankful.

—Bob Victorin-Vangerud, Congregation President

Winter Heating Bill Drive Successful

With joy, the stewardship committee announces the successful completion of our drive to cover the extra heating costs from last winter. Our goal was to raise $10,000—over and above our regular giving—to get back on track with our 2014 budget.

The stewardship committee conceived the idea of a special drive after hearing from the property committee about the overage last winter. The council approved it. Ole and Lena (aka Pastors Haaland and Carlson) kicked it off on Sunday 29 June during coffee with a skit written by our very talented in-house writer, Liz Gomoll. And the rest is history.

Fifty giving units in our congregation contributed to this fund drive—plus some gifts from non-members. Thanks to everyone for your generosity.

Unexpected Gift

Betty J. Anderson was never a member of Christ Church Lutheran. We don’t know if she ever set foot in the church building. But she remembered this congregation in her will with a gift of $35,346.82. Betty worked in finance for the ELCA for forty years and was the pianist at Lebanon Lutheran Church in Minneapolis for approximately sixty years. When she died, she had financial net worth of $1,384,384.22, and following taxes and gifts had $1,166,444.86 for distribution to various organizations. We are grateful that she thought to include this congregation in her generosity.

Ideas Welcome, Funds Available

Do you have an idea for a new initiative at Christ Church Lutheran? You can apply for funds to help make that idea bloom. There is still money left in the congregation’s visioning fund for 2014. Each year Christ Church Lutheran designates $10,000 from the endowment fund earnings as “seed money” to grow new life in the congregation. The funds are divided among outreach, worship, and congregation and community. Outreach currently has $1150 remaining, worship $650, congregation and community $200. Talk to any council member if you would like to “plant some seeds.”
**Children’s Programming Update for the Fall**

Our children’s programming task force has been working hard this summer, getting ready for fall programs for children at Christ Church. Appointed by the church council, the task force membership is Mary Brown, Sarah Brunsvold, Yi-ru Chen-Sarkanen, Luther Johnson, Donna Lindberg, Denise Morelock and Jeff Adams, Marcus and Robyn Nooney, Jonathan Stensland, and Pastor Carlson.

The task force has assessed rooms for children’s programs on Sunday morning and decided to use the Children’s Center (the space north of the nursery) for Sunday School and the Red Room for an activity for children ages 4–7 during the readings and sermon on Sunday morning. The nursery, for children 0–3, will be staffed during Sunday worship—parents can use it as needed.

The task force has also decided to begin a Sunday School program using a curriculum called Godly Play. It will begin the first Sunday in November. This is a wonderful curriculum for children that centers on Bible stories. Four teachers will attend a Godly Play core training at the end of September—Mary Brown, Donna Lindberg, Jonathan Stensland, and Pastor Carlson. They will share the teaching once the program begins in November during the education hour.

The task force is also preparing the children’s center for Godly Play—painting the walls of the room, ordering a colorful rug for storytelling, setting up shelves at children’s height, and ordering materials. Thanks to Joanne Seltz for her valuable guidance in these tasks.

In addition, we value children’s presence and participation in worship and in our life together. The task force is updating the bags at the back of church that have materials in them to help children stay involved during worship.

We yearn for our children to know God and to grow in their love for God. We’re excited about what the fall will bring for our children and their families. If you would like to get involved in this ministry, please speak to Pastor Carlson.

**Invitation to Join Meal Ministry**

Do you have a desire to be more involved in our community? Would you like to get more involved in our congregation’s ministries of outreach and service?

Each month we deliver a meal to SafeHouse, a shelter for homeless youth in Saint Paul run by Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota. Every couple of months we deliver a meal to homebound members of our community through our participation in South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels. We also regularly prepare and serve a meal at our Saviour’s Shelter on Chicago Avenue—often cooking together in the church kitchen. If you feel called to participate in any of these service activities, please contact a member of the mission committee.

**Congregation Service Project**

Sunday 7 September is designated “God’s Work, Our Hands” day in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Congregations across the country will engage in service projects to help people in need. That Sunday after worship, we will put together hygiene kits for homeless youth in our community—in partnership with Lutheran Social Service Metro Homeless Youth, which will distribute them. There is a table at the back of the sanctuary to receive your hygiene items for homeless youth.

Buy **travel sizes** (or small sizes) of the following items. Homeless youth are kids “on the go”—and large bulky items are difficult to carry in a backpack.

- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Body Soap
- Hand Soap
- Face Wash
- Tampons/Pads
- Toothbrushes/Toothpaste
- Body and Face Lotion,
  - Cocoa Butter
- Deodorant
- Tweezers and Nail Clippers
- Black hair care products
- Hairspray, hair grease/gel
- Hairbrushes, boar bristle hairbrushes, combs, hair binders/clips
- Razors/Shaving Cream
- First Aid Kits, Band-Aids, anti-biotic ointment
- Acne medications
- Contact Lens Solution and Cases
- Over the counter medicine
  - (Ibuprofen, allergy and cold)
Welcome to Our New Font Stand

When our Saarinen-designed font left the sanctuary in June for much-needed restoration, we were in need of a new, temporary font. Mary Bode and Joanne Seltz found a beautiful silver bowl at Crate & Barrel. Recently, with joy and thanksgiving, we welcomed the new stand that will hold it.

Designed by members of the preservation committee, along with the cantors and pastors—in a design inspired by our lower altar—it was crafted by Timothy Granlund of Prairie Woodworking on East Lake Street. It is made of white oak, in the same cut of wood—called “rift-sawn”—as our pulpit and with a matching finish. Final polishings of wax give it a warm look and feel and protect it from water.

When our permanent font returns, this new stand will be used to hold urns at funerals; and when the eucharist is celebrated every Sunday and at other times, it will replace the small low table that has been holding the flagon and paten—the wine and the bread—at the back of the sanctuary, before they are processed to the table with the offering.

Our gratitude to the preservation committee for overseeing our font restoration and the making of a new font stand, and to the altar guild and our cantors and pastors who advised them. Our gratitude also to Ann and Bob Davis for the gift of this new stand.

Invitation to Celebrate the Ordination of Kristine Stedje

By the grace of God and according to the apostolic tradition of laying on of hands and prayer Kristine Margaret Stedje will be ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on Saturday 13 September at 11:00am at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

Your presence is invited, your prayers are requested. A reception will be held at the church following the service. Bishop Rick Hoyme of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin will ordain her.

Kristine has been called to be pastor at Peace Lutheran Church in Menomonie, Wisconsin.

Kristine is a recent Luther Seminary graduate who did her field work at Christ Church Lutheran and became a beloved friend of many here. She served as a eucharistic minister, assisting minister, a preaching minister at midweek services in Advent and Lent, an intercessory prayer writer and leader, and a member of the worship planning team. She has asked Pastor Carlson to preside at her ordination service, and she invites your presence and your prayers. We rejoice with Kristine Stedje in her ordination and call!
Lectionary Readings
September 2014

Sunday 7 September
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Ezekiel 33:7-11
Psalm 119:33-40
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

Sunday 14 September
Holy Cross Day
Numbers 21:4b-9
Psalm 98:1-4 or Psalm 78:1-2, 34-38
1 Corinthians 1:18-24
John 3:13-17

September 21
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Jonah 3:10—4:11
Psalm 145:1-8
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

September 28
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Psalm 25:1-9
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

New Study Groups
Forming

New small study groups are forming this fall at Christ Church. Do you have a desire to grow in your knowledge and understanding of our Lutheran, Christian faith? Would you like to deepen your understanding of the Bible, what Lutherans have called the “first language of faith”? If you are interested, contact Pastor Haaland through the church office—612.721.6611—or by email at ehaaland@christchurchluth.org.

Designers from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and an architect from Mac Donald & Mack meet with the Christ Church preservation committee on 12 August to discuss the Historic Structures Report (HSR) solutions.
Welcome Puppies

Christ Church now has three new puppies.

Who is going to care for them, you ask? Our children . . .

The arts committee recently purchased the puppies for our children with designated memorial money.

They are to be sat on, moved, shared, and loved. You will notice their colors mimic the colors of two of the classroom banners in the education wing.

It is our hope that the many children in our congregation learn to love the beauty around them in many forms, including puppies!

Eero Aarnio designed these puppies. He is a vivacious, hospitable, and innovative Finnish interior designer. He is pictured here with his wife Pirkko, and this photo was taken in their home just outside Helsinki by Pastor Carlson on her 2012 trip to Finland.
Christ Church Lutheran went to the Minneapolis Institute of Arts to see the exhibit “Finland: Designed Environments.” Our tour of the exhibit was sponsored by the Christ Church arts committee. These are the people who toured the exhibit, along with curator Jennifer Komar Olivarez.

Diana Hellerman (second from left), the teacher of Godly Play at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, showed us her classroom and gave us wonderful guidance in developing our Sunday School program for Christ Church. On the tour that day were children’s program task force members (left to right) Sarah Brunsvold, Jonathan Stensland, Marcus Nooney, Donna Lindberg, and Pastor Carlson (who took the photo).

Naomi Bruesehoff, member of the Christ Church Weaving Group, working on the Advent weaving project for the chapel at the back of the sanctuary.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
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<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
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| ![Cross](image) | **LABOR DAY**  
Building Closed | ![Cross](image) | NOON Staff | 7:00 PM Choir | 10:00 AM Finnish School | 1:00 PM Weaving Design |
| 7   | Welcome Sunday | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  |
| ![Cross](image) | 9:30 AM Eucharist | 1:00 PM Tai Chi Chih | 5:00 PM Website Task Force | 9:00 AM Stationery | LSS Safe House Meal | 6:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal | 3:00 PM Wedding Kayla Ricksham & Dan Foley |
| 11:15 AM Activities Fair | ![Cross](image) | 11:15 AM Education | 11:00 AM Bldg. Tour | 11:15 AM Education |
|     | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  |
| ![Cross](image) | Holy Cross Day  
9:30 AM Eucharist | Courier Deadline | 7:00 PM Exec. Board | 10:00 AM Arts Noon Staff | 7:00 PM Choir | The Shelter Meal | Christ Church sponsored day at Midtown Farmers’ Market  
10:00 AM Finnish School Noon Loring Peters’ Memorial Service |
| 11:00 AM | 11:15 AM Education | 7:30 PM Council | 7:00 PM Stewardship |
|     | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  |
| ![Cross](image) | 9:30 AM Eucharist, Holy Baptism | 1:00 PM Tai Chi Chih | 7:00 PM Capital Campaign | 11:00 AM Retirees | 7:00 PM Choir | Godly Play Workshop | September 7  
ELCA Day of Service  
*God's Work. Our Hands* |
| 11:15 AM Education | 11:15 AM Education |
|     | 28  | 29  | 30  |     |     |     |     |
| ![Cross](image) | 9:30 AM Eucharist, Holy Baptism | 1:00 PM Tai Chi Chih | 7:00 PM FCCL Board |
| 11:15 AM Education | 12:30 PM The Shelter Fundraiser |
|     | 29  | 30  |     |     |     |     |     |
| ![Cross](image) | 1:00 PM Tai Chi Chih | 7:00 PM Strands of Hope | September 13, 11:00 AM  
*Kristine Stedje, Ordination*  
Central Lutheran Church  
333 So. 12th St., Minneapolis |
# Volunteer Schedule

**Sunday Worship Services - 9:30 a.m.**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Head Ushers</th>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Acolytes</th>
<th>Assisting Ministers</th>
<th>Prayer Writers</th>
<th>Writers</th>
<th>Lectionary</th>
<th>Head Ushers</th>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
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<th>Prayer Writers</th>
<th>Writers</th>
<th>Lectionary</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>Jeanne Anderson</td>
<td>Donna Lindberg</td>
<td>Jeff Weispfenning</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Pat Baehler</td>
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<td>September 14</td>
<td>Simo Sarkanen</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Sarah Brunsvold</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Pat Baehler</td>
<td>Chuck Merrell</td>
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<td>September 21</td>
<td>Jason Bergquist</td>
<td>Lucille Buelow</td>
<td>Daniel Holmengren</td>
<td>Jan Radloff</td>
<td>Pat Baehler</td>
<td>Jason Bergquist</td>
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<td>September 28</td>
<td>Simo Sarkanen</td>
<td>Phyllis Mattill</td>
<td>Dick Thompson</td>
<td>Dick Weispfenning</td>
<td>Jason Bergquist</td>
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**September Birthdays**

9/2  Julie Parkos  
9/4  Scott Schoenike  
9/5  Zachary Swanson  
9/11 Tyler Larson  
9/12 Tim Brandon  
9/14 Prince Faulk  
9/15 Susan Schuett  
9/17 Dori Brandon  
9/18 Dorothy Koop  
9/19 Molly Starkweather  
9/20 Cynthia Neubecker  
9/24 Amanda Gregg  
9/26 Kevin Olsen

Thank you, Ken, for mopping tunnel rain water . . . again!