



# ST. BARTHOLOMEW NEWSLETTER

## JUNE, JULY, & AUGUST 2021



*"To God be the Glory!"* (1 Peter 4:11)

### GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST JESUS!

Here's an interesting little psalm that I came across.

#### A PSALM OF SUMMER

"Now it came to pass that spring turned to summer again. God's people raised their voices and said: 'Recreation is my shepherd, I shall not stay home; He maketh me to lie down in a sleeping bag; He leadeth me down the interstate each weekend. He restoreth my suntan, He leadeth me to state parks for comfort's sake. Even though I stray on the Lord's Day, I will fear no reprimand, for Thou art with me; my rod and reel they comfort me. I anointeth my skin with oil, my gas tank runneth dry; Surely my trailer shall follow me all the weekends this summer, and I shall return to the House of the Lord this fall.'"

It's summer time again or soon to be! As the preceding little psalm points out, it's a time for vacations and weekend trips. Such vacations and weekend trips are healthy, as they give a break from the routine of life and refresh us emotionally, physically, and spiritually. Rest and relaxation are important. We remember that the Lord rested on the seventh day.

However, it's not healthy to take a summer vacation from the church, from God. There is obviously a difference between taking a couple of weeks off from work and taking the whole summer off from worship of our Lord. So if you're around for the weekend, please take time for worship. Or if you're going to be gone for the weekend, join us on Wednesday night for worship. And if you head out-of-town for a vacation, you can still plan worship into your vacation schedule. One option is to watch the live-stream of our service. You can also go to [lcms.org](http://lcms.org) and find a church in the area where you will be. A church is never too far away as long as you keep worship a priority.

And remember that the work of the church goes on all year long. It doesn't stop when you're not here. The bills need to be paid in the summer too. So please remember to keep financially supporting your church this summer. The best thing to do is to give your offering before you leave so that you don't forget to bring it after you come back. Consider using "Joyful Response," an electronic giving option. Contact the church office for more information on that.



Have a great summer! Enjoy the lazy, hazy days of summer. Have a great vacation!

But please don't take a vacation from your Lord.

Together in Christ,

*Pastor Krueger*

Sharing, Believing, Living, Caring

## FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

April 2021

Year-to-date Income:	\$50,922.62
Year-to-date Expenses:	\$56,801.34
Year-to-date Budget:	\$56,656.00

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### ELDER GROUPS

(A-G) Tanner Behnke	(920) 427-6201
(H-M) Ron Detert	756-3439
(N-Z) Gary Lemke	853-3846

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### Prayer Chain

A prayer request may be made to any member of the prayer chain. If you are requesting a prayer for someone, let the person know so that they are aware and respect their wishes if they do not want the request given to the prayer chain.

Judy Baer	756-2696
Florence Behnke	(920) 418-4315
Renee Bonick	(920) 296-9164
Sue Detert	756-3439
Lori Fels	(920) 639-3792
Rhonda Geiger	(920) 371-7375
Sandy Haberland	524-2016
Kris Krueger	756-3912
Faith Sonnabend	756-2779
Diane Zickert	(920) 841-8951
Joan Zutz	756-2501



### PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

"This is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us" (1 John 5:14)

### KINGDOM WORKERS - JUNE

The following members are listed as Kingdom workers for June in the following areas:

Altar Guild: Sue Juno, Sue Graf

Acolytes: June 6 - Emma  
13 - Kelvin  
20 - Simon  
27 - Natalie

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### KINGDOM WORKERS - JULY

The following members are listed as Kingdom workers for July in the following areas:

Altar Guild: Janet Kalies, Kris Krueger

Acolytes: July 4 - Ava  
11 - Alandra  
18 - Addison  
25 - Emma

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### KINGDOM WORKERS - AUGUST

The following members are listed as Kingdom workers for August in the following areas:

Altar Guild: Carolyn & Roger Bladow  
Florence Behnke

Acolytes: August 1 - Kelvin  
8 - Simon  
15 - Natalie  
22 - No Acolyte (Garms Family)  
29 - Ava

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Sunday school teacher: "Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?" "A teacher," Harold replied.

— via Risa Samra  
Saginaw, MI

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### ST. BARTHOLOMEW MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing the Good News of salvation with others  
(Matt. 28:19)

Believing in Jesus as our Savior (John 3:16)

Living our faith in what we say and do (James 2:18)

Caring for those in need (1 Peter 3:15; Mark 10:45;  
Eph. 4:28; 1 John 3:17)

**SHARING, BELIEVING, LIVING AND CARING**

# Living Generously

The purpose of this newsletter is to share God's Word so that our members will better understand who we are to be and what we are to do in the light of the Scriptures. It is our hope that this monthly publication will help you grow in your relationship with the Lord and as a Christian steward.

## The Steward's Identity

Who are you? Most often we identify ourselves by our relationships: I'm a father or mother, son or daughter, husband or wife. I'm a carpenter or teacher or businessperson or work in another of the myriad of professions now available to all. Do we identify ourselves in any other way? Do we see ourselves belonging to God? Because God has created us and in Holy Baptism re-created us, we belong to Him. We are His children. In and through Him, all things have their beginning. *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"* (Genesis 1:1). In His sovereignty, God chose us to be His stewards and to give us dominion over His creation (Genesis 1:28).

To give us the forgiveness of sins, to enable us to overcome the old nature, and to live the life of perfect stewardship in our places, God gave us the most precious gift of His Son. Jesus took our sins upon Himself on the Cross so that we might be reconciled to our Father. Because of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, we are secure and free in our relationship with our Father. God proclaimed His love for us on the Cross. He waits for our faithful response.

In His ministry on earth, Jesus, our Chief Steward, became our model for stewardship.

In Jesus, we are delivered from the Law to the Gospel of stewardship. At great cost, Jesus has freed us from the power of the Law with His innocent and precious blood so that we may serve Him in "everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness" (Luther's Explanation to the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed). Our motivation and strength as stewards come from the power of the Cross. By His grace, we now have our new identity in Christ. By grace, we see our need for a Savior, and we put off the old self. This paves the way for us to understand our identity as disciples and stewards of Jesus. Through the Gospel, God transforms our identity, and we become His friends, His children, and people who live each day as stewards.

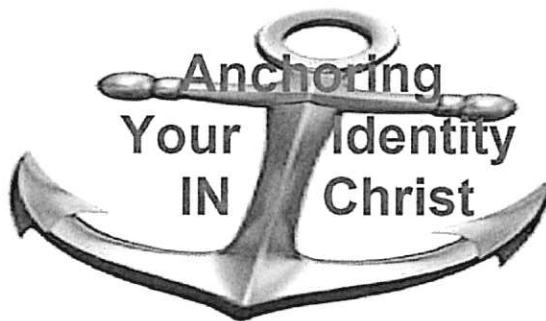


## The Gospel Changes Our Identity

The Gospel is our motivator for Christian stewardship. The Law tells us what we must do, whereas the Gospel tells us that Jesus has already done everything for us! It is the Gospel that empowers us to respond freely to obey, honor, love, and respect God. The Gospel, rather than the Law, prompts us to live each day as stewards. The Gospel gives us a new command: *"...love one another: just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another"* (John 13:34). The Gospel enables us to *"be imitators of God, as beloved*

*children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God” (Ephesians 5:1-2).*

By God’s grace, through His gift of faith, we begin to understand all that God did for us through His Son (Romans 5:8). The love of Christ compels us to live for Him. (2 Corinthians 5:14-15). As the Holy Spirit opens our eyes and hearts to God’s tremendous love for us, we are transformed into new creations with a new identity. *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come”* (2 Corinthians 5:17). With God’s love within us, the doing of His will becomes a joy. The Good News of the Gospel changes us from self-serving people to self-giving people who want to live each day as His stewards.



### **Our Identity as God’s Stewards**

We don’t really want to be stewards. Our first impulse is that we want to be the owners. We want to have possession of things. We want to be important, to be respected, and even to be envied. That’s not how it works, though. No, nothing is ours, but God has given us the high calling of stewards. (John 15:16). With such a high calling comes responsibility. With such high honor comes accountability:

*“Moreover,”* writes the Apostle Paul, *“it is required of stewards that they be found*

*trustworthy”* (1 Corinthians 4:2). May we, like the two faithful stewards we read about in the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), hear our Master’s gracious words, *“Well done, good and faithful servant.”*

### **Seek First His Kingdom**

As God’s people by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, we are filled with the Holy Spirit and enabled to demonstrate our love in ways that honor Him. There are many ways that we can respond to God’s love for us, all of which are aimed at thanking and praising Him for sending Jesus to be our Savior. First and foremost, we respond to God’s love for us by placing Him above everything else in our lives. *“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you”* (Matthew 6:33). We can also respond to God’s love for us by serving Him and His Church with our special talents, interests, and spiritual gifts (1 Peter 4:10).

### **Prompted to do Good Works**

God’s gift of grace through Jesus Christ is offered to us out of God’s love for us and not as a result of having earned or deserved it. *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast”* (Ephesians 2:8-9). As undeserving people, we receive God’s mercy. Our response and works that we offer do nothing for our salvation, but they demonstrate our love and gratitude for what God has done for us through Jesus. The result of being saved prompts us to do good works (Ephesians 2:10). With renewed and changed hearts, we are zealous in honoring and praising our Lord through what we do.

**Blessings as you Live Generously!**

## PASTOR'S SUMMER VACATIONS

June 21-28; July 12-19; August 23-30

Pastor Brett Simek of Trinity, Rantoul will be available for emergency pastoral care. He can be reached at (618) 410-9827.

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## NEW MASK/SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIP

The pews on the right (lectern side, east side) are masks optional and no social distancing.

The pews on the left (pulpit side, west side) are masks required and social distancing as it has been.

Hymnals have been returned to the pew racks.

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### "FOR SALE BY OWNER

Complete set of *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 45 volumes. Excellent condition. \$400 or best offer.

No longer needed. Got married. Wife knows everything."

— via Risa Samra  
Saginaw, MI

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## The Value of a Smile

It costs nothing, but creates much. It cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen. For it is no good to anyone until it is given away. If at the end of the day should I be too tired to give you one may I ask you to leave one of yours?



I would like to give a HUGE thank you to everyone for the prayers, cards, phone calls and gifts after my surgery. It brightened many of my days during my recuperation. All your thoughtfulness means a lot. God bless you all.

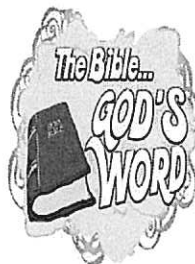
Lois Stache

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## SCRIP ORDERS

Preorder your Scrip by emailing Renee Bonick (dnrbonick@gmail.com). Your order will be ready to be paid for and picked up when you get to church. Scrip will still be available as before when you come to church or in the church office.

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If anyone is interested in joining our congregation from a non-Lutheran background or is interested in learning the basics of our beliefs as Lutherans, contact Pastor Krueger (756-3031) so a class can be set up beginning in September.

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## DO YOU KNOW YOUR HYMNS?

Dentist's Hymn: Crown Him with Many Crowns  
Weatherman's Hymn: There Shall Be Showers of Blessings  
Contractor's Hymn: The Church's One Foundation  
The Tailor's Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy  
The Golfer's Hymn: There is a Green Hill Far Away  
The Politician's Hymn: Standing on the Promises!  
Optometrist's Hymn: Open My Eyes That I Might See  
The Tax Payer's Hymn: I Surrender All  
The Gossip's Hymn: Pass It On  
The Electrician's Hymn: Send The Light  
The Shopper's Hymn: Sweet Bye and Bye  
The Realtor's Hymn: I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop

AND for those who speed on the highway—a few hymns:

55 mph . . . God Will Take Care of You  
75 mph . . . Nearer My God to Thee  
85 mph . . . This World Is Not My Home  
95 mph . . . Lord, I'm Coming Home  
100 mph . . . Precious Memories



# June Birthdays

1st	Dylan Wendling	15th	Dave Kalies
1st	Rev. Mark Krueger	15th	Kaylee Reinke
2nd	Andrew Wittmann	16th	Zachary Bonick
2nd	Bonnie Zeamer	19th	Shawna Kiesow
4th	Kayla Behnke	20th	Judy Baer
4th	Pete Kittel	21st	Tony Wittmann
6th	Jeannine Krepline	22nd	Ava Denor
9th	Connie Koerth	22nd	Dorothy Maile
10th	Sandi Zahringer	23rd	Natalie Krahn
12th	Kelly Behnke	26th	Eric Kittel
12th	Dominik Plate	26th	Keith Polkinghorne
12th	Kortney Woldt	27th	Debra Doughty
14th	Susan Wittmann		



2nd	Craig & Denise Scharbarth
3rd	Richard (Jr.) & Debra Doughty
9th	Kelly & Laurie Behnke
9th	Steve & Sue Juno
15th	Brian & Becky Krahn
16th	Mike & Terri Delvaux
20th	Pete & Betty Zarnoth
22nd	Gary & Alice Koerth
22nd	Norman & Caroline Krahn
25th	Richard & Sue Hammond
26th	Mike & Dana Irish



Please forgive us and politely notify us if an anniversary or birthday is missing from the list. Thank you.



Employer to a job applicant: "I see here you were last working for a psychiatrist. Why did you leave?"

Applicant: "Well, I just couldn't win. If I was late to work, I was hostile. If I was early, I had an anxiety complex. If I was on time, I was compulsive."

— via Rev. Dale Schoening  
Madrid, IA

## WHAT IS A FATHER?

A father is a creature who is forced to endure childbirth without an anesthetic. A father growls when he feels good and laughs loud when scared half to death.

A father never feels worthy of the worship in a child's eyes. He is never quite the hero his daughter thinks; never quite the man his son believes him to be, and this worries him—sometimes. So he works too hard to try to smooth the rough places in the road for those of his own who will follow him.

A father gets very angry when the school grades are not as good as he thinks they should be. So he scolds his son—though he knows it is the teacher's fault. A father gives his daughter away to another man who is not nearly good enough—so he can have grandchildren who are smarter than anybody's. A father makes bets with insurance companies about who will live the longest. One day, he loses—and the bet is paid off to those he leaves behind.

I do not know where a father goes when he dies; but I have an idea that after a good rest, he will not just sit on a cloud and wait for the girl he loved and the children she bore. He will be busy there, too—repairing the stairs, oiling the gates, improving the streets, smoothing the way.

- Selected

## THEY'RE COMING BACK!!! August 22, 2021



The Garms Family will be with us again on Sunday, August 22 @ 9 a.m.

"Pure harmonies, over 15 instruments, a powerful story. The Garms Family uplifts discouraged Christians with a live concert experience, refreshing music, and God's Word."



## THANK YOU TO OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

### Teachers:

Tanner Behnke, Kayla Krahn,  
Megan Boldt, Krystal Nenahlo

### Superintendents:

Amanda Zoellner  
Becky Krahn



**St. Bartholomew greatly appreciates  
your time and commitment!**

## JOYFUL RESPONSE

Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you probably do with other obligations? St. Bartholomew offers electronic giving for those of you who wish to have contributions transferred electronically to the church's account. If you have plans to travel this summer, electronic giving gives you a convenient way to keep up with your intended offerings. Simply complete and return an electronic giving authorization form available from the church office.

## Faith Comes By Hearing®

Vision 2033 and Military Outreach

Dear Reverend Krueger,

I pray that you will be blessed and encouraged to hear all that God is doing through your partnership with Faith Comes By Hearing. Your gracious gift of \$2,650.00 towards Vision 2033 helped lay the foundation for our service members and veterans to hear the Word of God. Because of church families like you, this Master Sergeant found hope and strength in the Great Shepherd:

**"On days that seem endless, listening to the Military BibleStick keeps me focused on my relationship with God."**

My heart is full of gratitude—you are planting God's Word in the hearts of millions. Thank you for answering the call to join us to record and provide Audio Scripture in every language that needs it. We praise God as we witness the evidence of your prayers and selfless giving. What a joy it is to be on this extraordinary journey together.

*I thank my God every time I remember you.  
In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with  
joy because of your partnership in the gospel from  
the first day until now.*

*- Philippians 1:3-5 NIV*

Your Servant in Christ,

Morgan Jackson  
Senior Vice President

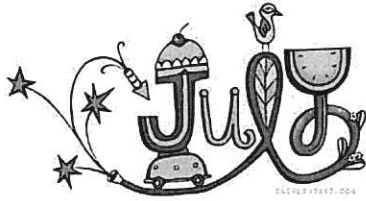
## THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com

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## Birthdays

1st	Jan Wittman	16th	Amanda Zoellner
1st	Kris Krueger	17th	Hank Horn VI
2nd	Alexis Bailke	17th	Bryan Krepline
4th	Jody Lau	20th	Pete Vechart
5th	Sienna Emmer	21st	Sue Hammond
7th	Nancy Davidson	22nd	Lyn Skattebo
7th	Todd Maeder	26th	Elliot Maile
7th	Jamie Moline	27th	Deb Schleis
8th	Shelly Christopherson	28th	Jake Koffarnus
9th	Danielle Schneider	28th	Kelsey Woldt
13th	Kit Horn	28th	Anthony Zoellner
15th	Sandy Haberland		



## ANNIVERSARIES

7th	Aric & Andrea Grenzer
7th	Daryl & Amy Woldt
11th	Terry & Bonnie Zeamer
13th	Todd & Krystal Nenahlo
15th	Steve & Beth Gilbertson
15th	Steve & Bonnie Smith
18th	Ron & Sue Detert
20th	Josh & Stephanie Petersen
23rd	John & Lori Krueger
24th	Bryan & Jeannine Krepline



Please forgive us and politely notify us if an anniversary or birthday is missing from the list. *Thank you.*

## PRODUCE TABLE

A table has been set up in the coat room for the summer for anyone wishing to bring in their extra garden produce to share with members of the congregation. The idea is to assist those who have too much or not enough fresh garden items. Items may be left on or taken from the produce table throughout the growing season.



## Thank You

Thank you to Debbie Kamps for making the confirmation scarves for the confirmands.



After Sunday school, two little girls, ages 4 and 2, were running down the hall at church when suddenly the 2-year-old fell to the floor, crying hysterically.

"When her Mom asked the 4-year-old if she knew why her sister was so upset, she answered: "Yes, I do! She trespassed me, and so I slapped her."

– Columnist Smiley Anders  
Baton Rouge (LA) Advocate

## Contribution Statements

Mid-year Contribution Statements will be emailed to those members whose email addresses we currently have. If you would like/need a hard copy, please let the church office know. Any members we do not have email addresses for will still receive a statement in their church mailbox.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



"These vegetables will taste better than store ones 'cause we planted them ourselves. Right, Mommy?"

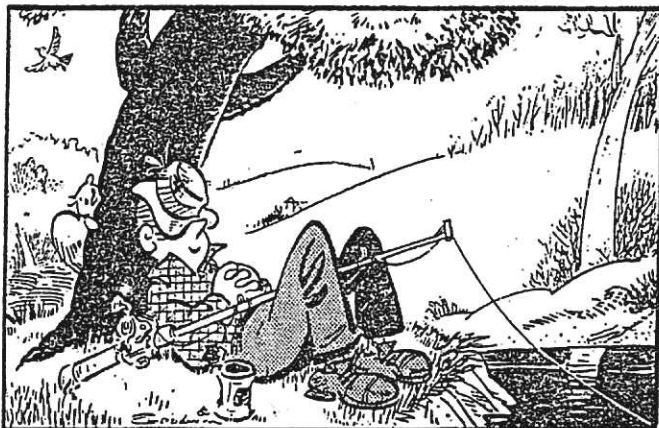
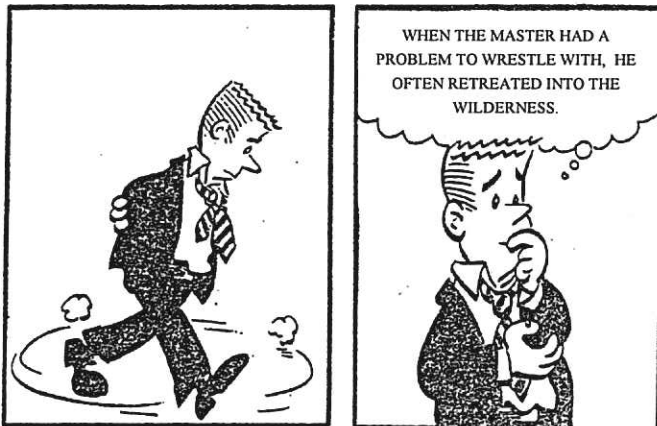
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## APRIL SCRIP TOTALS

CARD NAME	TOTAL	PROFIT
Amazon	20	0.50
BP	400	6.00
Culver's	25	1.25
Econo	1,125	33.75
Exxon	150	7.50
Festival	200	6.00
Fleet Farm	100	5.00
Kwik Trip	100	4.00
Meijer	100	3.00
Piggly Wiggly	150	4.50
Roundy's	100	4.00
Subway	25	2.50
Target	25	0.63
Walmart	150	3.75
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,670.00</b>	<b>\$82.38</b>

## PHILLIP'S FLOCK By Doc Goodwin



from JoyfulNoiseletter.com  
©Doc Goodwin (Phillip's Flock)



## Birthdays

1st	Debbie Kalies	21st	Steve Gilbertson
3rd	Norma Bailke	21st	Matt Juno
3rd	Philip Geiger	21st	Sue Juno
3rd	Braxton Hurda	22nd	Jessica Krueger
9th	Terri Delvaux	24th	Lexie Gilbertson
9th	Derek Emmer	24th	Mike Irish
9th	Hank Horn VII	25th	Adam Geiger
9th	Rhys Moline	25th	Karen Loose
12th	Rhonda Geiger	25th	Kyle Krueger
13th	Jo Ann Mignon	28th	Erin Propson
14th	Daryl Woldt	29th	Ron Detert
20th	Bud Zeamer		

## ANNIVERSARIES

2nd	Pete & Cheryl Kittel
3rd	Roger & Carolyn Bladow
4th	John & Sheri Levash
8th	Shelly & Jeff Christopherson
14th	Deacon & Renee Bonick
14th	Randy & Kim Rahn
18th	Seth & Amanda Riemer
19th	Brian & Amanda Denor
21st	Bill & Norma Drumm
25th	Keith & Debi Polkinghorne
26th	Bob & Sue Behnke
26th	Mark & Bonnie Evel
27th	Rich & Suzanne Gustafson
27th	Gary & Nancy Kabat
29th	Jules & Carol Clausing



Please forgive us and politely notify us if an anniversary or birthday is missing from the list. *Thank you.*



"The brain is amazing. It begins working from the time we are born, and works 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, right up to the time you get up to speak in public."

— via Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft  
Dover, DE