



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
303 N. Green Bay Rd Thiensville, WI 53092
Phone: 262-242-1174 www.grace53092.org



**Worship services: Sundays at 9am,
Tuesdays at 12:10pm**

CHURCH STAFF

Bill Beyer – Pastor (C: 262-674-4714)
Sandy Luetngen - Administrative Asst.
Fred Lynk - Custodian

Brian Dearing - Organist/Music Director
Shonda Schaff - Nursery Attendant
Kathryn Koppa - Sunday School Coordinator

Online Giving

Our Mission: "Reaching out to all people as Disciples of Christ, we serve God, proclaim our faith, and care for all creation."

Vision Statement: At Grace, we strive to Guide and nurture all individuals to be Resilient, Accepting Children of God rooted in the Enrichment of God's word.

Welcome to Worship: We encourage visitors to talk with our pastor following worship! Know that you are always welcome to join us for worship! If you are interested in becoming a member at any time, please contact the pastor.

Communion Instruction: Jesus Christ, present in this Meal of bread and wine, invites every person to share in Holy Communion, especially children. Ushers will direct you to the front, where you will come forward in an orderly fashion, receive a piece of bread, and then select either the red wine or the white grape juice and return to your seat. ***Gluten-free wafers are also available; talk to the pastor if you require gluten-free.*** If you would prefer not to commune today, you are welcome to come forward with your hands crossed to receive a blessing instead. If you would like your children to receive communion instruction prior to sharing in this Meal, please talk with the pastor before or after worship.

Offering: Offerings are not taken during worship. There is an offering plate at the back of the sanctuary and one near the front for you to drop an offering when you come up for communion. You may also scan the QR code on this page to give online.

Hearing Assistance Available: This facility is equipped with a hearing-assistance system. Please see an usher for assistance.

Nursery Available: We love to have children in worship with us. For those that play quietly there is a space for them to play with quiet toys in worship (the Pray-ground). A separate staffed nursery is provided for healthy children that are more active and like to be a bit louder.

PRELUDE (Bell Choir): from John A. Behnke (arr.), *The Cross, The Grave, The Skies!* (2012)

1. In the Cross of Christ I Glory – Tune: Rathbun
2. Hail Thee, Festival Day – Tune: Salve Festa Dies

WELCOME

WELCOME TO WORSHIP (Bell Choir): Cathy Moglebust (arr.), “Thy Holy Wings” (1995) – Tune:
Bred Dina Vida Vinger

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin....Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God...and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *Spirit, Open My Heart*

(ACS 1043)

Refrain

The musical notation is written on four staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple, using quarter and half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff covers the lyrics 'Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of'. The second staff covers 'liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing'. The third staff covers 'and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.'. The fourth staff is empty, serving as a space for the verses.

Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of
liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to
Refrain

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord... be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (*Silence is kept for reflection*) O God.....our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

FIRST READING Jeremiah 15:15-21

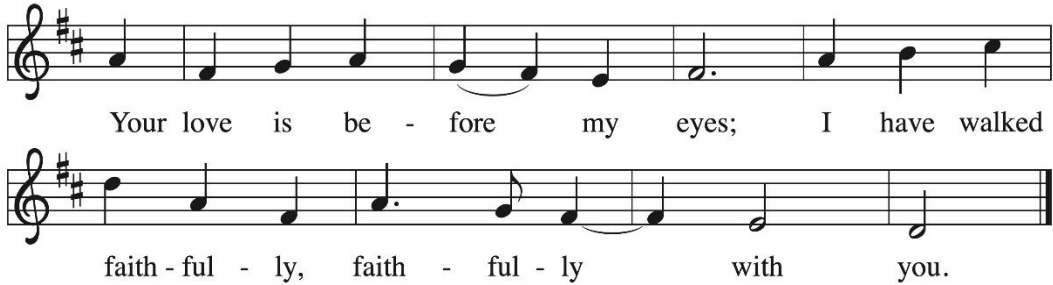
¹⁵ O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰ And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. ²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

L: Word of God. Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 26:1-8



L: Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

C: Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.

L: For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

C: I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful. R

L: I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

C: I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round your altar.

L: singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

C: LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides. R

SECOND READING Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

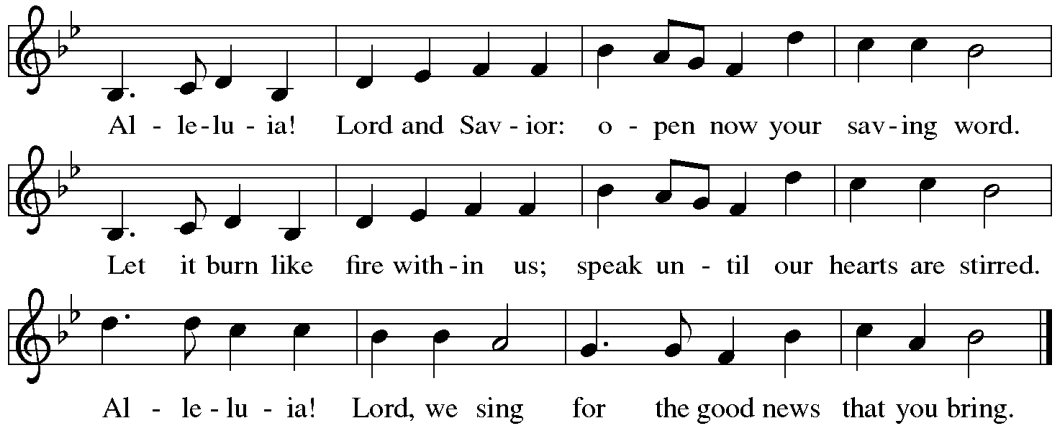
¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: Word of God. Word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S TIME & BACKPACK BLESSING

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Setting 10)



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL Matthew 16:21-28

P: The holy gospel, according to Matthew, chapter 16.

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (*The gospel is announced*)

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P: The gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: God of mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Receive our prayers.....Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty...join their unending hymn: ***Holy, Holy, Holy*** (ELW Setting 10)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P: Holy God, you alone are holywith every breath. **C: We praise you, O God.**

P: Generations bless your faithfulness.....into the future. **C: We bless you, O God.**

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son....with us now. **C: We thank you, O God.**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit.... without end. **C: Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG

(ELW Setting 10)



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION SONG *Day by Day*

(ELW 790)



- 1 Day by day, your mer-cies, Lord, at-tend me, bring-ing com-fort
- 2 Day by day, I know you will pro-vide me strength to serve and
- 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur-dens



to my anx-ious soul. Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you send me
 wis-dom to o-bey; I will seek your lov-ing will to guide me
 grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me





draw me near - er to my heav'n-ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all
o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter

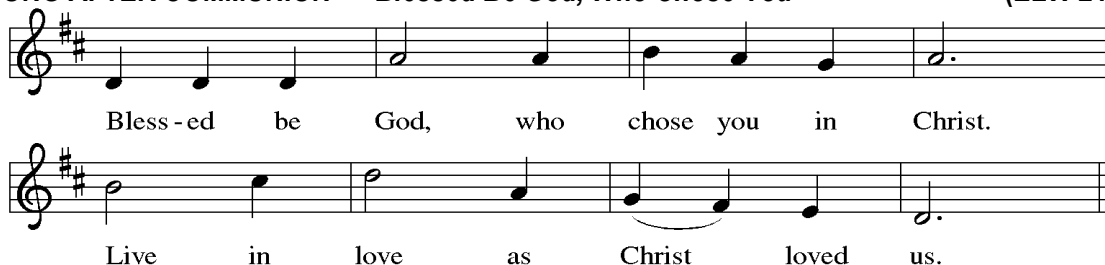
mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,
of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,
what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,

lead me to the home I trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
help me bear life's pain and sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
with your pres - ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Be God, Who Chose You

(ELW 215)



Bless - ed be God, who chose you in Christ.

Live in love as Christ loved us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: We give you thanks, almighty God ...for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **C: Amen.**

SENDING SONG *Lift High the Cross*

(ELW 660)

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE (Bell Choir): Katherine J. Larson (1937-2025), "Celestia: Bright and Glorious is the Sky" (1995) – Tune: Dejlig er den Himmel Blaa

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Gospel Acclamation, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lamb of God, from ELW Setting 10. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS020514.

Music Notes:

The **Prelude** includes two arrangements by John Bennke from his collection, *The Cross, The Grave, The Skies!* Dr. Behnke is Emeritus Professor of Music at Mequon's Concordia University, where he taught organ and handbells and directed the Alleluia Ringers, Concordia's touring handbell choir for 29 years. He received his M. Mus. and D. Mus. from Northwestern University and studied for a year at the Westphalian Church Music Institute in Hereford, Germany.

As the **Last Prelude**, we hear Cathy Moglebust's masterful and serene setting of "Thy Holy Wings." Ms. Moglebust has developed and directed handbell music programs since 1983, with more than 400 compositions and arrangements in print. Her music has been broadcast on the "Today" and "Good Morning, America" television programs. She holds her BA and M. Ed degrees from South Dakota State University.

The **Postlude** is Katherine Larson's setting of "Bright and Glorious is the Sky." After a peal introduction, the Danish tune is presented, first straightforwardly, then underneath an ostinato pattern in the higher bells. The third verse is heard with increasing speed before the piece concludes with a raucous peal.

The **Hymn of the Day** was written by John L. Bell (b. 1949), who most likely wrote it for the sending out of one of the Iona Community's young people to a poorer part of Scotland for a year or two. Bell is a hymnwriter, author and ordained minister of the Church of Scotland and a core member of the Iona Community, an ecumenical Christian group based on the eponymous island off the west coast of Scotland. The tune is a traditional Scottish one called "Kelvingrove," named for a place in Glasgow.

Next week: Hymn Sing!!! Pick your favorite hymns, including those that are meaningful or interesting to you, but not part of the "God's Greatest Hits" parade.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Worship Leaders

Reader: Dawn Omernik

Wine: DawnMark Bacon-Johnson, Nancy Perez

Usher: TBD

Comm. Set Up: JoAnn Holdmann

Greeter: TBD

Coffee Fellowship: TBD

Next Sunday Worship Leaders

Reader: TBD

Wine: Nancy Perez, Geri Schesel

Usher: TBD

Comm. Set Up: Sheri Besag

Greeter: TBD

Coffee Fellowship: TBD

This week at Grace

Sun 8/30 8am Bell Choir Warmup

9:00am Worship ~ Bell Choir rings for worship

Tue 9/1 12:10pm Devotional Service

6:30pm Women's Choir Rehearsal *** ***First Rehearsal of 2026-27 Program Year******

7:30pm Men's Chorus Rehearsal *** ***First Rehearsal of 2026-27 Program Year******

Wed 9/2 9am Guest House Sandwiches

3:30pm Violin Lessons

6:30pm Saved by Grace Vocalist Only Rehearsal

Sat 9/5 9am Saved by Grace Band Practice

Sun 9/6 9:00am Worship ~ Hymn Sing

10:15am Chancel Choir Rehearsal *** ***First Rehearsal of 2026-27 Program Year******

Grace's Welcome Statement: Grace Lutheran Church is a religious community that celebrates the gifts of God that empower us to engage in the struggles of life, to care for each other, and to serve Christ where we work and live. Grace is a "Reconciling in Christ" congregation, which means we welcome the participation of people of all ages, races, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, education backgrounds, and economic conditions – all who want to join us in serving God, proclaiming our faith, and caring for all creation.

Newsletter: Please stop by the communication desk and pick up your newsletter if you receive a hard copy. Thank you!

Bible Study: Thursday Bible Study will start up again on Thursday September 10th at noon, with the same format as in the past. Plan on meeting in the Luther Room.

If you have any questions or comments, please see Dan Driewer or Skip Blick.



Guest House Sandwiches: We assemble sandwiches for the guests at the Guest House *twice* each month – on the first and third Wednesdays at 9am. Join us for this opportunity to serve and to enjoy fellowship with one another on **September 2 and 16.**

Synod RIC Pride Worship: The Milwaukee Synod RIC Ministry Team's "Celebrating Our Diversity as God's Children" 2026 Pride worship service will be at 6pm on Thursday, October 8th, at Ascension Lutheran Church, 1236 S Layton Blvd (aka S 27th St), Milwaukee. If anyone is interest in singing in the Pride worship service choir, please email Chuck Ellingson at chuckgmsric@gmail.com. Also, if anyone would like to attend the Pride worship service and provide baked goods, fruits, veggies, water, or anything else for the fellowship time following the Pride worship service, please email Chuck.

Sunday Coffee Fellowship Information: We're looking for friendly faces to help with coffee fellowship on Sunday mornings. It's an easy but important ministry towards hospitality. There is a great guideline to follow and support is provided!! Just set up coffee, bring a few treats, one always gluten free, and help create a warm, welcoming space for connection after worship. If interested, please sign up using one of the following options:



SignupGenius

- Communication desk signup sheet
- Online with SignupGenius using the link in the Grace Notes or the QR code here
- Call the office and let Sandy know
- Theresa and Jen will also be reaching out by phone as well
- You can also reach out to: Jen Bartz ~ 414-550-5231, Theresa Umhoefer ~ 262-227-8840

Food/Item Donations: Please note that at this time we are only collecting items for Family Promise and the All Peoples Church Pantry. Below are the items needed for these organizations. The Mr. Bob's collection will return in the fall.

Family Promise Needs: The Ozaukee County shelter is currently in need of items listed below. If you would like to contribute, donations can be placed in the bin by the Luther room in the narthex.

Current needs: gas gift cards, full size mattress pads, toothpaste, 13-gallon garbage bags, Lysol disinfectant spray, toilet bowl cleaner, paper towels, toilet paper.



Isaiah 55 Food Pantry (All Peoples Church): You may drop food and hygiene items off in the bins by Luther room. Items needed include: Pancake Mix, Syrup, Cereal, Canned Pasta (Spaghetti-O's, Ravioli), Tuna, Tuna Helper, Spam, Canned Beef Stew, Baked Beans, Pasta, Canned Pasta Sauce, White rice (1lb bags or instant), Peanut Butter, Jelly/Jam, Hamburger Helper, Canned Greens (Collard, Mixed, Turnip, Mustard), Toothpaste, Deodorant.



Worship Volunteers: Calling all readers, wine servers, ushers, greeters, communion setup folks and coffee fellowship helpers! There is a hard copy of the SignupGenius form on the communication desk for those that find it easier to sign up on their way in or out of church. The link sent out in the Grace Notes is still active and available, and this QR code can also be used to connect to the Signup Genius. Emails and phone calls are always welcome as well. Thank you for all your help!



Prayers: Chevelle Lutze (Veronica Junker's great-niece), Andy Roehrborn (cousin of Matt Junker), Rick Chu (Veronica Junker's uncle), Jerry Karthauser, Judy Schwartz (friend of Delaine Jacobs), David Rauth, Tucker Kucharski, Judy Hogan (Ken Hogan's mother), Wendy (friend of Geri Schesel), Ron (friend of Diane Omdahl), Joyce Winghart, Sandy Smith, Bill Luebke, Karen Krogstad (Courtney Krogstad's mother-in-law), Javier Rodriguez, Madalynne Baum, Russ Biancuzzo, DawnMark Bacon-Johnson, Diane Schumann, Caroline Lindberg (Niece of Holly Tischer).

Celebrations this week:

Birthdays: Diane Clemens – 9/4

Anniversaries: Ryan & Lauren Biggin - 9/2, Kevin & Courtney Kihslinger – 9/2,
Dave & Lynne Huebschen - 9/4

