



First English Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod



The Parish News

Rev. Paul E. Kaldahl, Jr.
Pastor

Kristin Kaldahl
Emily Bernau
Organists

Julie Moran
Office Manager

Tammi Harrison
Preschool Director

Shannon Halsrud
Preschool Secretary

Trevor Loehr &
Tony Kladstrup
Custodians

Sunday
Worship Services
8:00 & 10:45 A.M.
Fellowship
9:00 A.M.
Nursery 9:15-Noon
Sunday School &
Bible Classes
9:30-10:20 A.M.

1311 E. 18th Street
Spencer, IA 51301
712-262-5598 Phone
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Preschool
712-262-3699
IGLLS
712-262-8237

The Pastoral Office as the Means by Which God Cares for Souls

Dear friends of Christ and members of FELC and CTK,

I continue Part 5 on my Newsletter article series regarding the office of the public ministry. We will soon be calling a pastor. What is our duty and responsibility to him? Let's see how God uses pastors to accomplish His good will for His bride—The Church. This article is perhaps the most important of them all and is also the longest.

Romans 10:12–17 is one of the clearest biblical explanations of why the pastoral office exists and why the Church must call, send, and honor pastors. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) sees this passage as foundational for its doctrine of the Office of the Holy Ministry, as articulated in the Augsburg Confession, especially Articles V and XIV. This passage teaches that salvation is for all, but that God delivers this salvation through preaching, and preaching requires sending. The LCMS understands this “sending” as the Divine Call into the pastoral office.

1. Salvation Is for All—But It Must Be Delivered (Romans 10:12–13)

Paul begins by declaring, *“For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all... For ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’”* The LCMS affirms this universal promise. Christ's salvation is for all people. But, Paul immediately raises the question: How does anyone come to call on Christ? Paul's question leads to his own chain of reasoning—a reasoning that forms the backbone of Lutheran pastoral theology.

2. The Fourfold Chain of the Ministry (Romans 10:14–15)

Paul asks four rhetorical questions:

How will they call on Him in whom they have not believed?
How will they believe in Him whom they have never heard?
How will they hear without someone preaching?
How will they preach unless they are sent?

This is not merely logic—it is divine revelation about how God works. Calling requires believing and no one calls on Christ without faith! Also, believing requires hearing! Faith is not self-generated; it comes from outside us. Hearing requires preaching and God chooses His preachers who speak the Word of God (Gospel of Salvation) to human ears. Therefore, preaching requires men to be sent; however, no one is allowed to preach on their own authority. They must be sent—that is, called into the office. This is the biblical foundation for the LCMS doctrine of the pastoral office.

3. Augsburg Confession V — The Ministry Exists to Give the Gospel

The LCMS confesses The Augsburg Confession, article V, without reservation. It states that God established (instituted) the Public Office of the Holy Ministry, **“so that we may obtain this faith, the ministry of teaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments was instituted.”** Paul writes in Romans 10:17, *“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”* Simply said: Faith comes through hearing. Hearing comes through the Word. The Word is delivered through the ministry. Therefore, the ministry is divinely instituted—not optional. The LCMS teaches that the pastoral office is not a human invention but God's chosen means for creating and sustaining faith.

4. Augsburg Confession XIV — No One May Preach Without a Call

The Augsburg Confession, article XIV, states, “**No one should publicly teach or preach or administer the Sacraments without a rightly ordered call.**” This is a direct application of Romans 10:15, “*How are they to preach unless they are sent?*” This means pastors must be called (“sent”) by the Church. The call is divine, because God works through the Church’s call. Again, no one may ever assume the office for themselves! The higher Church “authorities” determine when a man is properly prepared to serve the Church of God. The seminaries of the LCMS issue calls to candidates who have fulfilled the proper requirements. The call gives the pastor the authority to preach, teach, and administer the Sacraments. Thus, AC XIV protects the Gospel by ensuring that preaching is done by those whom Christ has sent.

5. “How Beautiful Are the Feet” — The Honor Due to Pastors

Paul quotes Isaiah, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” The LCMS understands this as honoring the office—not the man. That is important! Read it again: The LCMS understands this as honoring the office—not the man. The “beauty” is in the message and the divine sending. This aligns with Luther’s teaching that pastors are “spiritual fathers” and should be honored under the Fourth Commandment—not because of personal merit, but because of the office God has given them.

6. Faith Comes by Hearing—Not by Private Revelation (Romans 10:17)

Paul concludes, “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” Faith is created by the external Word, not inner feelings! The external Word is delivered through responsible Biblical preaching. Responsible Biblical Preaching is entrusted to the Office of the Holy Ministry. This is why the LCMS insists on the necessity of the pastoral office for the life of the Church.

7. LCMS Summary of Romans 10 and the Pastoral Office

Romans 10:12–17 reveals six things: 1. The Gospel must be preached. God has chosen preaching as the means of salvation. 2. Preachers must be sent. This is the divine call into the pastoral office. 3. The pastoral office is instituted by God. 4. No one may preach without a call. 5. Pastors are to be honored. Not for their personality, but because they bring Christ’s Word. 6. Faith comes through hearing the preached Word. This is why the office exists.

For the LCMS, the pastoral office is not a human arrangement but God’s own means of bringing the Gospel to His people. To honor the office is to honor Christ, whose Word and salvation come through those He sends.

In Christ’s Service,
Pastor Paul Kaldahl



Annual Preschool Fundraiser Sept. 14th– 30th - The First English Christian Preschool is again selling Butter Braid Pastries, frozen pizzas, cookie dough and an assortment of other food and gift items for its annual fundraiser. Order from any preschool family or call the pre-school office at 262-3699. Delivery will be Tuesday, October 27th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our preschool!

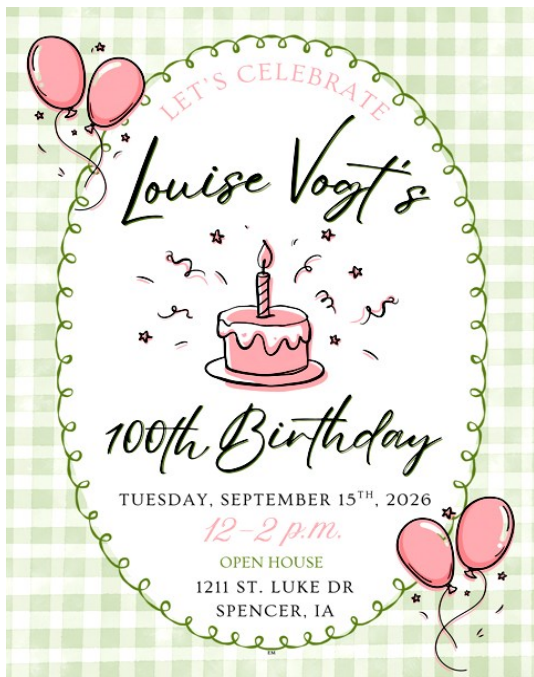


Discipleship



Week	Attendance			Communion			Offering (Regular & Electronic)	Sunday School	
	Early	Late	Total	Early	Late	Total		Kids/Adults	SS Offering
Aug. 2	142	51	193	120	45	165		/	\$ 0.00
Aug. 9	132	69	201		—			/	\$ 0.00
Aug. 16	117	100	217	116	79	195		/ 54	\$ 0.00
Aug. 23	141	73	214		—			/ 53	\$

September, 2026



Lutheran
Women
in Mission



Topic—

"God's Heart-Changing "No" p. 22 Summer Quarterly 2026

Thursday, September 3rd —

9:30 Esther & Naomi Guild at FELC

Hostess—Sharon Kading Topic— Bonnie Kabrick

6:30 Sarah Guild at FELC

Hostesses — Kristin Kaldahl Topic— Mary McCloud

**Sunday, September 13th — 9:00 a.m. Lydia Guild,
Church Library**

Pray for Young Women Outreach
2027 Planning Meeting - Brainstorm Ideas

Operation Christmas Child

Board of Christian Life and Outreach will be supporting Operation Christmas Child (filling Christmas boxes) beginning in October. If you are interested, you might consider purchasing some school supplies while you can find them on sale. In addition to filling a Christmas Box, Donna Connelly, Operation Christmas Child Prayer Coordinator of Northwest Iowa is asking for your prayers.

What if one of the most powerful ways you could help a child hear about Jesus is simply to pray? Operation Christmas Child is preparing for another season of sharing the Gospel through shoebox gifts; and behind every shoebox is a child, a family, a community-and an opportunity for God to change lives. I am looking for men and women who feel called to stand in the gap through prayer for the children, families, churches, volunteers, and ministry teams engaged in this mission.

Would you consider joining my Operation Christmas Child Prayer Team? You don't need special training or a lot of extra time. I simply need people who are willing to pray faithfully and specifically. Together, we will pray for:

- Open doors for the Gospel and hearts prepared to receive it.
- Children who receive shoeboxes to encounter the love of Jesus.
- Churches and community groups to catch the vision for evangelism and discipleship.
- Volunteers and ministry teams to have wisdom, strength, unity, and encouragement.
- Safety and protection for everyone involved in collecting, processing, transporting, & distributing shoeboxes.
- The Greatest Journey discipleship program and the children who choose to follow Jesus.
- New believers to boldly share Christ with their families and friends.
- God to raise up people of peace and open doors and communities that have not yet heard the Gospel.

Your prayer matters. Every shoebox represents an opportunity, but prayer prepares the way for the Gospel to go forth. If God is stirring your heart to be part of this ministry through prayer, I would love to have you join me. Whether you can pray every day, once a week, or simply commit to praying during key times throughout the Operation Christmas Child season, there is a place for you on my prayer team.

Jesus said in Matthew 9:37-38, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into His harvest."

Let's cover this entire ministry in prayer and trust God to do what only He can do-transform lives for eternity through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



2026

Do not worry about anything,
but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving
let your requests be made
known to God

Philippians 4:6

Wednesday Nights: High School Grades 9-12 (STARTS @ 7:00)

- ★ Wed Sept 2 - Led by Wendy Rees & Laura Hallgren
- ★ Wed Sept 9 - Led by Wendy Rees & Laura Hallgren
- ★ Wed Sept 16 - no youth group (Clay County Fair)
- ★ Wed Sept 23 - Led by Wendy Rees & Laura Hallgren
- ★ Wed Sept 30 - Led by Wendy Rees & Laura Hallgren

Usher & Coffee Clean-Up

- Sun 9/20 @ 8am; communion service
- Sun 9/27 @ 8am; non-communion service

DISTRICT YOUTH GATHERINGS - printable registration packets found at www.idwlcms.org, or printed forms from the Opportunity Corner; turn in to FELC office

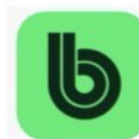
- **Senior Youth (grades 9-12)**
 - ◆ October 2-4
 - ◆ Camp Okobojo
 - ◆ parent meeting TBD
 - ◆ Registration deadline is 9/9
 - ◆ cost is \$90 for Sat only, or \$120 for Fri & Sat (portion covered by Board of Youth)
- **Junior Youth (grades 6-8)**
 - ◆ October (23pm) 24-25
 - ◆ West Des Moines, Sheraton Hotel
 - ◆ parent meeting 9/3 at 6pm (FELC)
 - ◆ Registration deadline is 9/13
 - ◆ cost is \$175 (portion covered by Board of Youth)



Stay informed with

BAND:

- download the BAND app from your phone's app store
- join the FELC Youth group for future communications



Members present: Leonard Langner, Paul Salton, Dan Knaak, Janet Iedema, Doug Kading, Clayton Fletcher, Corey Langner, Pastor Kaldahl, and Karen Hargens.

L. Langner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Kaldahl opened with devotions.

P. Salton made a motion to approve the agenda, D. Knaak seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Secretary's report – The minutes from July 2026 were reviewed. P. Salton made a motion to approve the secretary's report. J. Iedema seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report – submitted

C. Langner made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, P. Salton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approve bills – No bills.

IGLLS – Leonard Langner

Enrollment for '26-'27 stands at 173 students. A commercial refrigerator for the pantry was purchased and was installed on August 20, as well as a new milk cooler. Parent meetings are taking place. A new P.E. teacher has been hired, Alison Munter.

New Horizons – no report

Board of Elders – Paul Salton

Kelly Hartmann continues to work on the sound system with Audio Video out of Clive. The call committee has assembled four names for the voters to consider. Special voters meeting on August 30 at 1:00 p.m. The Concordia health plan will remain the same for next year. The elders are working on their budget. Hope Haven has requested to hold a fall retreat at FELC. The elders agreed with the understanding there will be no communion given. Paul Salton and Travis Harman will stay on the board of elders next year, and other congregation members have agreed to fill the open spots on the board. They will be approved at the fall voters meeting. P. Salton has agreed to serve another term as head elder.

Board of Trustees – Clayton Fletcher

Trevor is working on waxing floors and cleaning tiles. The trustees are working on sealing the block and grading the dirt outside of the stained glass windows. Larson Painting is on site working on painting, hope to be done soon.

Preschool Board – C. Langner

- For next year we currently have 32 3-year-olds and a waiting list of 6 and 23 4-year-olds.
- Tammi and Sarah have switched rooms for this year.
- Still looking for a substitute bus driver for the fall on Monday-Wednesday in the morning.
- We will again have afternoon childcare on Wednesdays.
- Ruth is now officially retired, and Shannon is doing a great job.
- We are planning to stay with Hy-Vee for lunches for the Preschool all day class.
- We are still looking to add a couple tires to the playground for the kids to play on. We will also need to fluff the rocks before preschool starts.
- IDW Early Childhood Conference will be August 7th, and all staff including our new secretary Shannon and Pastor will be able to attend.
- Preschool Parent night will be August 13th

Board of Education – submitted

The Board of Education is still working on finding a Worship Director for GIFT next year. Amber has reached out to Sarah Popp who is still praying over it. The schedule and meals have been planned, and Ranae Kehoe has agreed to hand out the snacks each week.

Rally Day will be on August 30th. The Bibles are ready to go for the 3-year-olds and 3rd graders. Invitations have been sent out.

Summer Sunday School will conclude on September 6th. There will be no Sunday School September 13th or 20th.

Regular Sunday School will start September 27th.

Board of Youth – Janet Iedema

Presentation on Camp Detroit seemed to be well received. Thank you to all who supported Kaylee, Isabelle and Ryonna in prayer and gifts.

Youth/parents continuing to set up coffee/clean up kitchen on weeks youth usher.

8 youth attended the mini golf outing in July @ Arnolds Park.

Will work on our 2027 budget @ September meeting.

Wednesday, 8/26 - HS youth fun night, then will be gearing back up to continue Apologetics: Biological Evolution in September

September youth group Weds: 9/2, 9/9, 9/23 and 9/30. NO youth group on 9/16 due to the Clay County Fair

Registration forms for Senior and Junior Youth Gatherings will be located in the Opportunity Corner.

SYG is @ Camp Okoboji, Oct 2/3-4. BoY paying \$25 toward SYG

JYG is in West Des Moines, Oct 24-25. BoY paying \$50 toward JYG.

Board of Christian Life/Outreach – Doug Kading

The BCLO will be taking over the nursery packet program. Veterans Recognition on November 8th, cake and coffee between services. There will be a senior game date in October. September 27 is the fall adult Bible study kickoff between services. Will be doing coffee days for IGLLS and the preschool, dates to be announced. Shoe boxes will be filled again this year ahead of Christmastime.

Pastoral items:

Need to explore a background check program for the church workers and volunteers. Leonard will speak with Principal Popp about what they use at the school. On assimilation Sunday on August 30, new members will be given coffee cups with the FELC logo. Need to follow up and help get a worship director for GIFT. Pastor has several people in his online class. He continues to make calls on CTK and new members.

Old Business:

1. Call process – voters meeting on August 30 at 1:00 p.m. to select an associate pastor to issue a call to.

New Business:

There will be a clean-up day scheduled to clean up around the garage and trim/weed landscaping.

1. Looking at extending the west parking lot north to the new addition. Considering using crushed concrete. Also looking to seed grass between IGLLS new addition and the playground.
2. Discussed uses for the bequest that FELC received from the Vern Mickelson estate. After discussion, D. Knaak made a motion to take the bequest from the estate and put it with the money in the chiller fund and invest it in a short-term CD, C. Fletcher seconded the motion. Motion carried. There was then discussion where to invest the funds. D. Knaak made a motion to invest the money in a 7-month CD at Farmers Trust and Savings Bank, C. Langner seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. Stewardship campaign – will investigate with Leon Schoenfeld about options.
4. 2027 budget will be completed and voted on by the council in October.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Hargens

SERVE — September, 2026



Sept. 13	Sept. 20	Sept. 27
Ken Schroeder	Gaylin Fey Ken Schroeder	Jeff Chalstrom
Laura Harman	Hudson Frankenstein	Reegan Homby
Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl
# 9 Ken Chalstrom	# 1 LYF	# 1 LYF
& Heath Staedtler —————>	Pat Millard & Diane Higgins —————>	
Corey Langner	Ranae Kehoe	Amber Christianson
Dan Knaak	Ranae Kehoe	Bob Cody
Abbey Ruden	Dan Knaak	Kelly Hartmann
Matt Ruden	Alex Halverson	Matt Ruden

THANK
YOU

Sept. 13	Sept. 20	Sept. 27
Jerry Enderton	Jerry Enderton Travis Enderton	Paul Salton
Mia Fuhrman	Cannon Caven	Grant Langner
Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl	Kristin Kaldahl
# 10 Mark Bergstadt	# 10 Mark Bergstadt	# 2 Paul Salton
Michael Schauer	Steve Hallgren	Charlie Peterson





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Every Wednesday all Preschool classes dismiss at 11:15 a.m.	1 6:00 Preschool Board 8:00 Worship Service on SMU	2 9:15 PS Fire Drill 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:20 IGLLS Chapel 8:30 Finance BD 11:30 PS Devotions 2:00 Worship Service on SMU 7:00-8:30 LYF	3 9:15 PS Disaster Drill 7:00 Spirit Lifters 9:30 Esther & Naomi Guild Meeting at FELC 6:30 Sarah Guild at FELC 7:00 Board of Elders	4 Pastor's Day Off	5 9:00-4:00 Family Reunion—Fellowship Hall
6 8:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Pastor's Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship w/ Communion	7 Offices Closed No Preschool / IGLLS LABOR DAY 	8 9:00 Winkle-Pastors 9:30 Library Board 7:00 Board of Education 7:00 Trustees 8:00 Worship Service on SMU	9 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:20 IGLLS Chapel 8:30 Finance BD 9:45 Preschool Chapel 11:30 PS Staff Meeting 2:00 Worship Service on SMU 7:00-8:30 LYF	10 7:00 Spirit Lifters 9:45 Preschool Chapel	11 Pastor's Day Off Makeup Day for M-W Preschool Class	12  Clay County Fair Begins
13 8:00 Divine Worship 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:00 Lydia Guild-Library 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 No Sunday School-Fair Week 9:30 Pastor's Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship	14 Preschool Fundraiser Runs Sept. 14th—30th	15 6:30 Board of Youth 8:00 Worship Service on SMU	16 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:20 IGLLS Chapel 8:30 Finance BD 11:30 PS Devotions 2:00 Worship Service on SMU No LYF—Fair Week Preschool Picture Day	17 7:00 Spirit Lifters 5:15 Board of C. Life / Outreach 7:00 Church Council Preschool Picture Day	18 Pastor's Day Off No Preschool / IGLLS Fair Day	19
Clay County Fair September 12-20						
20 8:00 Divine Worship w/ Communion 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 No Sunday School-Fair Week 9:30 Pastor's Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship w/ Communion 5:00 Langner's Home Bible Study	21 6:30 pm Ladies Bible Study-Fellowship Hall No Preschool / IGLLS District Inservice IDW Pastor's Conference Sept. 21-22 Gloria Dei-Urbandale	22 8:00 Worship Service on SMU	23 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:20 IGLLS Chapel 8:30 Finance BD 9:45 Preschool Chapel 2:00 Worship Service on SMU 5:00 GIFT Opening Night 7:00 LYF 7:15 Confirmation Begins	24 7:00 Spirit Lifters 9:45 Preschool Chapel PARISH NEWS DUE	25 Pastor's Day Off Makeup Day for M-W Preschool Class	26
27 8:00 Divine Worship 9:00 Fellowship w/ coffee & donuts 9:15-Noon Childcare in the Nursery 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Pastor's Bible Class 10:45 Divine Worship 5:00 Langner's Home Bible Study	28 6:30 pm Ladies Bible Study-Fellowship Hall	29 PS Picture Retakes 6:30 pm Ladies Bible Study-Fellowship Hall 8:00 Worship Service on SMU	30 6:30 Men's Bible Study 8:20 IGLLS Chapel 8:30 Finance BD 10:00 Ladies Bible Study Begins 2:00 Worship Service on SMU 3:45 GIFT 1st-6th Grade 7:00 LYF 7:15 Confirmation	PS Fundraiser Ends September 30th		

September, 2026



Sept 2 Makenzie Dallman
 Sept 3 Henley Allison
 Ryan Frankenstein
 Steve Kladstrup
 Donna Nordman
 Sept. 4 Kevin Klein
 Sept 5 Diane Higgins
 Sept 6 Hilary Becker
 Sept 7 Jenny Brausey
 Joan Kimball
 Sept 8 Dave Abel
 Sept 9 Lainey Abel
 Emersyn Baccam
 Aris Rettig
 Abby Schauer
 Sharon Steinbeck
 Sept 10 Claire Christensen
 Jennifer Essick
 Clayton Fletcher
 Sept 10 May Lo
 Kurt Russenberger
 Craig Von Ehwegen

Sept 11 Loretta Bendlin
 Ethan Eglund
 Karen Rutter
 Sept 12 Dave Laubenthal
 Sept 13 Lowell Carlson
 Sept 14 Kenny Hoffard
 Larry Westphal
 Sept 15 Louise Vogt
 John Widvey
 Sept 16 Parker Bergstadt
 Shawn Caven
 Steve Hallgren
 Tara Nighswonger
 Tabatha Peterson
 Zarah Zahrt
 Sept 17 Kande Petersen
 Sept 18 Huntley Anderson
 Cammy Trierweiler
 Sept 19 Paul Brausey
 Heidi Hartmann
 Sept 20 Julie Carstens

Sept 21 Braelynn Abel
 Finley Fassler
 Jacob Hargens
 Sept 22 Tess Brant
 Lisa Claus
 Alex Cody
 Dave Potratz
 Whitney Prantner
 Joe Schendel
 Sept 23 Gaylin Fay
 Sept 24 Ken Chalstrom
 Sept 26 Bonnie Ewoldt
 Pam Polson
 Sept 28 Dakota Bartley
 Kelly Hartmann
 Sept 29 Rosa Lee Enderton
 Kirby Fields
 Sept 30 Ava Avery
 Shelley Jacks
 Carver Wempe
 Trisha Wempe
 Colton Wilinski



Sept 2 Kashia & Brook Nolin
 Sept 4 Keith & Audra Echtenkamp
 Sept 6 Andy & Shana Manteufel
 Sept 6 Nolan & Torie Abel
 Sept 7 Scott & Marcie Breidinger
 Sept 8 Chris & Brianna Dean

Sept 11 Brandon & Dana Lowder
 Sept 11 Brian & Veronica Stickrod
 Sept 12 Ryan & Makayla Fassler
 Sept 16 Clayton & Jalen Wempe
 Sept 18 Tim & LeAnne Hamrick

Sept 19 Ken & Deb Essick
 Sept 21 Kelly & Pam Polson
 Sept 22 Gregg & Kris Allen
 Sept 23 Shane & Tess Brant
 Sept 24 Larry & Tammy Roseboom
 Sept 25 Tony & Sarah Kladstrup



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Spencer, IA 51301

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