



Celebrating the Good News of the risen Christ especially to:



The Chapel Messenger

Volume 15 Issue 1

JANUARY 2026

Do all the good you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as you can.

John Wesley

*May the blessings of our Lord rest on you
and your family throughout the new year.*



Redeemed and Made New

"The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them." Luke 2:20

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Happy New Year! As we begin 2026, be encouraged. You can live differently in the presence and the power of the Lord! As you move into the new year of 2026, do not forget the message and lesson of Christmas. Like the shepherds, let it change you, and allow it to move into the days ahead rejoicing. In 2026, remember two things from Christmas. Jesus has come, and He is God with you. Take time to pray and worship. Allow each step of life to be directed by the Lord in humble trust. You can trust God. He sent Jesus, just as He had promised and announced to the shepherds. The shepherds found Jesus just as they had been told they would. God has cared for you in the past year. Look back and remember. Let God's faithfulness propel you forward with rejoicing. Like the shepherds, you
(Continued on page 23)



- 1 Jarod Hoover
- 3 Tracy Prittis
- 4 Cassidy Prittis
- 8 Angie Millin
Craig Pletcher
- 9 Kim Smith
Robert Holstine
Claire Lester
Garrett Lester
Andrew Stene
- 11 Rene Temple
- 12 Rhonda Ulderich
- 15 Lindsay Latuch

- 16 Landon Ulderich
- 19 Rob Singo
- 20 Nina Jade Boothby
- 21 Kaitlyn Latuch
- 22 Andrew Pletcher
- 23 Linda Henry
Pam Weimer
- 24 Cole Dankenbring
Emerie Kellman
- 26 Charles McFarren
- 27 Betty Henry
- 28 Lillian Tyson
Matthew Smith
- 29 Meghan Lester
- 31 Page Wetterburg
Rayne Aguliar (Shultz)

- 4 Pastor Denton & Cathie Lester
- 16 Larry & Maxine Shelley
- 22 Terry & Kathi Schmuck



Our food pantry items for January are bar soap, shampoo, deodorant and toothpaste. You may bring your donations to the church during the month of January. We are currently supplying the Rockwood Area Food Pantry located at Messiah Luthern Church in New Centerville. Hours for distribution are 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. Thank you.

can trust God's Word. Rely on the Scriptures. Rest in God's promises. Move forward in faith.

Drop the resolution list of the new year and fill your life's list with just two items. Take time to pray. Ask God what He would have for your day today, this moment, and beyond. Focus on your relationship with Jesus, **not necessarily what you resolve to do in the new year. God's love and** faithfulness will carry you to places that you could not resolve to go on your own. This was the case for the shepherds. They could not have **purposed to arrive at Jesus' manger on their own. They did not know it** was happening, until God invited them through the announcement of the angels.

Make it your life's mission to worship and surrender. The shepherds dropped everything and went to experience what God wanted for them, Jesus. They arrived and took in all God had prepared for them to experience, and they realized that God had fulfilled all that He said to **them through the angel. The same can be true for us. Focus on God's character. Spend time at Jesus' feet, realizing that the Word was made** flesh in Him. The shepherds were invited to experience the Glory of God, and we are invited to experience His Glory through His Word each day of our lives.

As we worship, we will be changed. We will see God for who He really is, and we will see ourselves for who we truly are, sinners redeemed. We are sinners, who are forgiven and made new. We are redeemed and sanctified sons and daughters in Jesus through faith. This reality will cause us to go forward rejoicing in what God has in store. In short, God is with you. Jesus is Immanuel, God with us, and we will not be the same. Take that to heart today and rejoice. We are not the same because Christmas has come. You and I, like the shepherds, can go forward into the new year rejoicing.

Blessings, Pastor Tim



Our Country/Leaders
 Our Church/Wesley Chapel
 Pastor Tim Monteith & family
 Presiding elder James Golla
 Ethan, Forrest & Barb Stark
 Maxine Temple
 Ralph & Chop Pletcher
 Darlene Stevanus
 Gail Minerd
 Persecuted Christians
 Police officers/Military
 First responders
 Medical personnel
 Unsaved loved ones
 Rex Temple
 Kristi Burkett & her family
 Jade Hetz Chun
 Emily Lemmon
 Amber Johnson
 Tina Yinkey
 Easton Pritts & family
 Tara Raley
 Christy Hay
 Myron & Jennifer Deal
 Terry & Kathi Schmuck
 Gary Weimer
 Maxx Stevanus
 Israel
 Travel mercies
 Unspoken
 Ray & Deb Ankeny
 Paul Wilson family
 Bob Lane
 Matt Kessler
 Sadie Pletcher
 Marty Duppstadt
 National Guard families
 Bonnie Sechler

Bob Clark
 Cody Kimmel
 Kurt Tipton
 Don Nickels & Jenny Lynn
 Hykes
 Rose Shurg
 Tom Critchfield
Carol & Betty (Kim's aunts)
 Laura Caton
 Unita Dull
 Robert Webb family
 Steve Rose
Kim's friend (addiction)
 June Bruner
 Jane Smith
 Betty Henry
 Mark & Sandi Sechler
 Ed Beals family
 Gerald Wilson
 Mike Bradley, Sr.
 Justin & Brianne Logue & family
 Timothy Porter Jr. family
 Atta Sadgepour
 Shirley Ankeny
 Sanner family
 Shirley Walter
 Wiatraks & baby
 Anti-semitism movement
 Australian Jewish tragedy
 Jim Augustine family
 Those who have lost loved ones
 Craig Knupp
 Tribuko family
 Karen Struckoff family
 Hadley Fisher
 Dave Nedrow
 Ed Baker



Military/Families

Jeremy Allan
 John Benford
 Stephen Bigler
 Ian Blevins
 Gabe Bluebaugh
 Kinzie Bungard
 Aaron Engleka
 Joe Gusbar
 Grant Hanak
 Keith Henry, Jr.
 Kristi Hopp
 Jake Johnson
 Jacob Keller
 Lexi Kerns
 Denton Lester, Jr.
 Conner Lisbon
 Kurt May
 Jamie Miller
 Ross Pletcher
 Randall Pritts
 David Rogers
 Max Strasiser
 Randi Thomas
 Charles Trimpey
 Families of fallen soldiers

Serving this month

ACOLYTES Flint & Reed Breegle

	GREETERS	OFFERING TEAM
January 4	Charlie & Martha Mitchell	Mitchell's & friends
January 11	Jason Breegle family	Jason Breegle family
January 18	Jamie & Mindy Singo	Singo's & friends
January 25	TBD	TBD

*If you are unable to acolyte, greet or usher on your Sunday,
 please find a replacement. Thank you.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

January 4	Matthew 2:1-6	Grace Sechler
January 11	Matthew 2:13-18	Dave Henry
January 18	Zechariah 4:1-6	Connie Pletcher
January 25	Matthew 8:5-10	Tristan Pritts

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

January 4	Matthew 2:7-12	Joseph Sechler
January 11	Matthew 2:19-23	Linda Henry
January 18	Zechariah 5:7-14	Forrest Stark
January 25	Matthew 8:11-15	Faith Millin

*If you are unable to read on your Sunday,
 please find a replacement. Thank you.*

LOOKING FOR AWESOME, ENERGETIC, SPIRIT-FILLED persons to take part in Sunday services. We need greeters and ushers to fill a Sunday. A reminder that one of your membership promises is *SERVICE*. In case you're wondering, other promises with membership are *PRAYERS, PRESENCE, GIFTS* and *WITNESS*. Challenged yet? Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board.

"If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." ***-2 Chronicles 7:14***



Puzzles

Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.
Then read the completed Bible verse.

KEY: A E I O

" — M TH — L GHT — F
 TH — W RLD. W H — V — R
 F LL WS M — W LL N V R
 W LK — N D RKN SS.
 J H N 8:12, NIV

Answer: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." John 8:12, NIV

Helping Those in Need

As always, the Wesley Chapel congregation has risen in a time of need to help a local family have a very merry Christmas. In contact with a church member, a local food agency made it known to the Wesley Chapel congregation that Christmas for this family would be minimal this year. A gift basket with a gift card, fruit, baked goods from the New Generation class was delivered, as well as the December Food for the Soul meal. Seven generous Wesley Chapel families chose one of the seven children to purchase Christmas gifts and toys/clothing. These items were delivered before Christmas. Several people who participated in this mission work commented on the joy they felt in fulfilling this endeavor. We hope this mission work blesses the family at this very Holy time and the Lord will continue to guide the family as well as Wesley Chapel to continue working for His will.



~Written by Linda Henry



Let's Begin the New Year Seeking!

This time of year we make resolutions, goals and desires we want to achieve in the new year. I'd like to suggest that the "best" seek we can do is seek the Lord. Seek, as referred in the Bible, is a whole being effort to find, inquire and pursue with passionate intensity.

I believe it just takes desire for Jesus to have a part in your daily life. Think about all the blessings. Be grateful for everything He does for you daily. The simplest thing - He gives you breath to live. Begin to study His Word (The Truth of God) by daily Bible reading. Prayer is also very important - talk to the **Lord in Jesus' name you can approach Him with anything. Seek fellowship with other believers.**

Our culture today is very, very corrupt with lies, hatred and bitterness. The next thing we need from Jesus is guidance of the Holy Spirit to give us discernment. What should I believe from the media, family and friends. Our **world is promoting very ungodly behaviors. We need to be open to Jesus' help, ask for His help, look for His help and most of all accept His help.** It is impossible to do this without the Lord.

The next thing you need to do is ask the Lord to help you destroy ungodly thoughts and behaviors in you so you can be the light of His presence to the world. Pick up your cross as Jesus says and follow Me. Do you know what your cross is? Everyone has the same cross—it is to overcome your carnal nature. Your carnal nature is focusing on worldly things rather than spiritual growth. But there is a big stumbling block that usually happens. You find it hard to relinquish your thoughts and behaviors to God for then you are no longer in control of your life. Surrender, for He knows the best for your life.

Create a desire to seek the Lord, analyze deception, destroy ungodliness and **accept God's destiny.**

Accept God's destiny to enhance your life for an amazing 2026.

A daily prayer: (fill in your desires)

Father, Thank You for my _____,
Forgive me Lord _____. Jesus help me,
guide me Holy Spirit. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

~ Submitted by a fellow sister in Christ

MASON JAR nightLight

Because Jesus is the light of the world, his followers don't need to fear darkness or life's dark times. Make this nightlight to remind you of Jesus' light and presence.



What you need:

- Work area with good ventilation
- Mason jar
- Clear glue that works on glass
- Paintbrush
- Glass stones
- Tealight candle
- Lighter
- Adult supervision

What you do:

1. Starting at the top of the jar, brush glue on a small section.
2. Press glass stones onto the glue in rows. Let dry.
3. Continue gluing stones, in small sections, until the entire jar is covered.
4. When dry, place a candle inside. Light with adult help.



DON'T FORGET - Agape is every Wednesday evening at 6:00 p.m. Spread the word and bring a friend!

It's SNOW much fun to learn more about our Lord and Savior!



?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ??

In Matthew 13, to what does Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven?

- A. A farmer sowing seed
- B. A mustard seed
- C. Yeast
- D. Hidden treasure
- E. A merchant who finds a pearl
- F. A fishing net
- G. All of the above



BEGINNING JANUARY 1, reservations for the fellowship hall or picnic pavilion need to be requested for the current year. A request form from the trustees needs to be completed and a contact person/telephone number will be required. Reservations can be found in the office and will be approved by the trustees with consideration to church calendar activities. Thank you.

RESERVED

A NEW FLOWER CHART has been posted by the office door. You have the opportunity to reserve flowers for the sanctuary on a Sunday of your choice. Price is \$30 for two cut bouquets. Please make your check payable to Somerset Floral and give it to Kim Smith or Shanna Breegle. Thank you.



The first quarterly church council meeting for 2026 is scheduled for Thursday, January 15th at 7:00 p.m. Committees will meet at 6:15 p.m. Newly elected committee members are encouraged to attend.

Refresh

The ladies of Wesley Chapel would like to invite all women, from high school **graduates and older**, to join us in our new women's group, **REFRESH**. The first meeting will take place Friday, January 9th at 6:00 p.m. at the church and will continue the second Friday of every month. A soup and sandwich supper will be served. We will be focusing on discipleship, fellowship and service that aims to provide opportunities for growth in Christ through worship, study and community. Equipping us to know God and glorify Him in our homes, church, and world. Please see Kristen Sanner with any questions.





CHRISTMAS CAROLING

On the cold evening of December 21st, more than 44 people came together to ride in a bus to people's houses to sing carols. Before we left, we dressed in reindeer antlers, Santa hats, and lots of tinsel. We stopped at several houses. There were eleven children, nine youth, and a lot of adults. We sang three songs: Joy to the World, Silent Night, and We Wish you a Merry Christmas. The children were always in front, singing loudest. The adults sang loud, too.

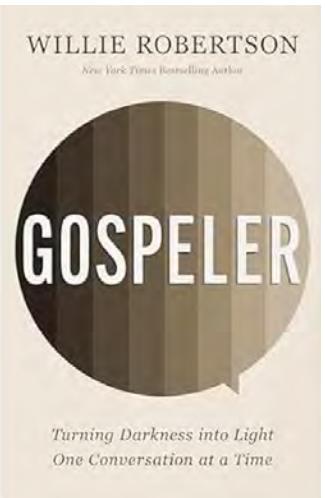
When we were done caroling, we made our way back to the church. Rene Temple served delicious cookies and hot chocolate, which was exactly what we needed to get warm again. We also took a group picture. It was quite a fun time.

A special thanks to Martha Mitchell, for organizing this event; Shaun & Jen Roberts (Colburn Bus lines) for driving us; thank you to EVERYONE who provided snacks; the people of Wesley Chapel for coming to sing and make a joyful noise, and JESUS for EVERYTHING.

~Written by Brooklyn Monteith



-18-



Wesley Chapel's men's group is starting back up on Saturday, January 17th. (More dates to be determined) Breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m. with the lesson to follow. Jason Brengle will lead the group as they study "GOSPELER" by Willie Robertson. In this study, you will read personal stories, practical advice and scriptures to help you become confident in sharing the Gospel to others. Please note, you do not need to be a member of Wesley Chapel to attend, - we'd love to have new faces join us, so bring yourself and a friend. Books will be provided. If you have not previously signed up, please contact Jason Brengle at 814-233-8718 so he can get a book ordered for you.



Food for the Soul Announcement:

After much prayerful consideration, we would like to inform you that Food for the Soul will no longer provide the monthly meal.

We are deeply grateful to all who have supported this ministry over the years through their time, service, and prayers. It has been a meaningful way to care for members of our church family and community, and we appreciate everyone who helped make it possible.

Thank you for understanding. If you have any prayer requests or needs, please call Wesley Chapel at 814-926-2226.

Thank you,
Food for the Soul



Hello,

Please find enclosed a donation in memory/honor of Edward T. Beals (Food for the Soul recipient).

Thank you,

Brenda K. Stout

Dear Wesley Chapel,

Thank you for your generosity and hard work with packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. We greatly appreciate your hard work to giving these kids a shoebox full of love and making a difference in their life! Each box carries not just hygiene and gifts, but the Good News of **Jesus' love. Giving them the chance to learn about Him and to bring** more people involved. May God bless your church as you continue to **bless others. Can't wait to see you next year.**

"For God so loved the world..." John 3:16

Sincerely,

Kingwood Drop Off Center

Dear Church friends,

Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers during Ray's recent hospitalization. It was touch and go for awhile, but God was faithful and he is now on the mend again.

The fruit basket was an unexpected bonus that was very much appreciated. Thanks again! We love you all.

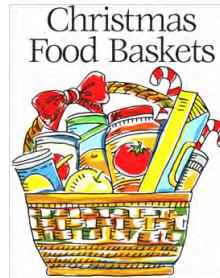
Ray & Deb Ankeny

To my Church family,

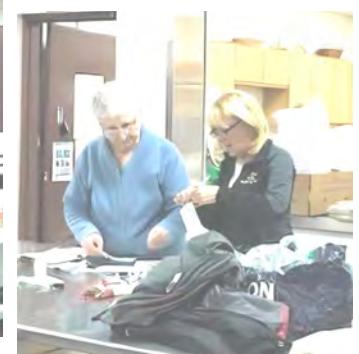
Miss all of you and want everyone to know I love and appreciate you. Hope to be back soon.

Love,

Jenny Lynn Hykes



Another wonderful Christmas basket project is in the books. The New Generation Class and friends were able to assemble and deliver 33 baskets this year! We want to thank everyone who baked, prepared, or donated to add more goodies to the fruit baskets. They were all greatly appreciated by all who received them.





Again the Lazarus Gate Food Pantry director, Sue Barclay, had requested local congregations to try a new collection method for food items. The method is called Reverse Advent collections, which were very successful last year. One food item is listed for each day from December 1st through December 24th. Items

included soup, pancake mix, vegetables, cereal, pasta, peanut butter and jelly and the like. These items were collected over the month and submitted to the Lazarus Gate Pantry. In all, about 15 of these collections were gathered from Wesley Chapel families. The food collections were delivered on December 17th to the food distribution center at Messiah Lutheran Church in New Centerville. **God's blessings** on all who participated in this very worthy cause.

~Written by Linda Henry



Pictured above: Just a small amount of all the items donated for the food pantry during the Advent month of December.



To everyone at Wesley Chapel,
Thank you for all the love and community lunches all year...and for your blessings and prayers.

Love & Blessings in Jesus,
Catherine M. Ohler

SEW MUCH FUN.....

Please consider joining Pam Weimer as she leads a group in sewing walker caddies for those in the surrounding community. You do not need any prior experience, all are welcome to join in on the fun. This will be held Saturday, January 24th 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Please see Pam with any questions.



"The Wise May Bring Their Learning"

The wise may bring their learning, the rich may bring their wealth,
And some may bring their greatness, and some bring strength and health;
We, too, would bring our treasures to offer to the King;
We have no wealth or learning; what shall we children bring?

We'll bring him hearts that love him; we'll bring him thankful praise,
And young souls meekly striving to walk in holy ways;
And these shall be the treasures we offer to the King,
And these are gifts that even the poorest child may bring.

We'll bring the little duties we have to do each day;
We'll try our best to please him, at home, at school, at play;
And better are these treasures to offer to our King;
Than richest gifts without them — yet these a child may bring.
—Anonymous

~Taken from Newsletter CD, WordContent, January 2017



Many of our children and youth have been doing great things recently. Check out their accomplishments below and on the next page. We at Wesley Chapel are so blessed with amazing children and youth.

Keep up the awesome work everyone!



Seth Kimmel, 12th grade, was honored by being named 1st Team ICC South as a kicker for Berlin Varsity Football.



Youth Bell Choir back row from left : Jon Monteith, Joseph Sechler and Glenn Millin

Youth Bell Choir front row from left : Kaitlyn Latuch, Faith Millin, Natalie Latuch, Brooklyn Monteith and Grace Sechler



Adult Chime Choir from left: Amy Monteith, Angie Millin, Connie Pletcher, Sarah Pletcher, Kristen Sanner, Linda Henry, Mary Ellen Hoover, Dave Henry, Ryan Sechler, Pam Weimer, Mark Temple

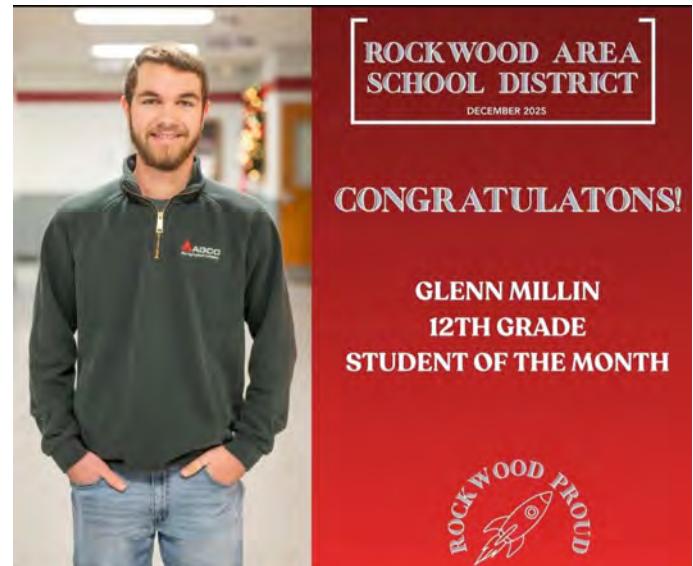


Not only did Wesley Chapel's Chime Choir once again grace the congregation with beautiful music during our Christmas celebrations, but our Youth Bell Choir did the same. This was the first year for the Youth Bell Choir and boy did they impress. A very special thank you to Trinity Lutheran Church in Confluence for lovingly gifting us with the bells - the same bells Mark Millin used as a child. Mark did a spectacular job of leading both choirs, and they showcased just how talented our congregation is, both young and old! Thank you Mark for all the time you put into both of these groups.

The AGAPE Children's Christmas program was presented on Sunday, December 21 during the Sunday school hour. Under the direction of Mark and Angie Millin, the children dressed up to tell of the birth of our Savior, Jesus. From Mary and Joseph, to angels and shepards, to kings from afar...oh and King Herod made an appearance as well...the story was told. The sanctuary was filled with loving family and friends. A time of refreshments and fellowship followed. A very BIG and heartfelt thank you to the **Millins for all their hard work and dedication to the children's ministry. Thank you to the children for learning their parts and for the parents who brought their children to each practice.**



Reed Brengle, 3rd grade, won a \$500.00 scholarship at the Elijah Brengle Memorial Bowling Tournament for the 11 and under division. **Elijah is Flint and Reed Brengle's big brother** who is dearly missed and went to be with Jesus in 2020.



Glenn Millin, 12th grade, was honored with student of the month in December for Rockwood Area School District.

January 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <i>*Pam King</i>	2 <i>*Randy & Michele Klein</i>	3 <i>*Doug Knight</i>
		<p>You are encouraged to remove this center page and place it on your refrigerator for the month for reference.</p> <p>*Denotes daily prayer focus.</p>				
4 Holy Communion Wesley Missions  <i>*the New Year</i>	5 <i>*Delores Kurtz</i>	6 Bible Study 7:00 p.m. <i>*Tim, Lindsay, Kaitlyn, Natalie & Hannah Latuch</i>	7 Agape 6:00 p.m. <i>*Delbert & Tammy Lechliter</i>	8 <i>*Denton & Cathie Lester</i>	9 Refresh Women's Group 6:00 p.m. <i>*Denton Jr., Nicki, Jocelyn, Garrett, Claire & Meghan Lester</i>	10 <i>*Steve Long</i>
11 <u>Baptism of the Lord</u> <i>*for shut-ins</i>	12 <i>*Tricia & Madison Martin</i>	13 Bible Study 7:00 p.m. <i>*Colin, Courtney & Keaton Martz</i>	14 Agape 6:00 p.m. <i>*Craig, Jessica, Madyson & Owen Maurer</i>	15 Committees 6:15 p.m. Council 7:00 p.m. <i>*Charles, Vickie, Kala, Jason, Dakota & Kaydin McFarren</i>	16 <i>*Dale & Vicki Merchant</i>	17 Men's Group 7:30 a.m. <i>*Bob, Cindy & Jenna Miller</i>
18 <i>*for our environment</i>	19  <i>*Bob & Debbie Miller</i>	20 Bible Study 7:00 p.m. <i>*Chad, Lisa, Mason, Brayden & Kaiden Miller</i>	21 Agape 6:00 p.m. <i>*Matt, Kaitlyn, Maddox & Talon Miller</i>	22 <i>*Mark, Angie, Glenn & Faith Milin</i>	23 Newsletter Deadline <i>*Gail Minerd</i>	24  Sewing 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. <i>*Charlie & Martha Mitchell</i>
25 <i>*for the homeless</i>	26 <i>*Tim, Amy, Joe, Jon & Brooklyn Monteith</i>	27 Bible Study 7:00 p.m. <i>*Forrest, Paige & Juddson Ohler</i>	28 Agape 6:00 p.m. <i>*Luke, Telma & Christian Ohler</i>	29 <i>*Scott & Lesa Ohler</i>	30 <i>*Norma Jean Phillipi</i>	31 <i>*Brad & Lori Pletcher</i>