



The
Mustard Seed
 July/August 2021
The Monthly Newsletter
 of
St. John's Evangelical
Lutheran Church

47 McLachlin St. S., Arnprior
 Ontario K7S 2Z1

Pastor:

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Church Council

Enid Blackwell	623-7017
Debbie Witt	622-1500
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Andy Kalnins	863-0202
Alison Burkett	618-5716

See us on facebook:
St. John's Lutheran Church Arnprior

On the web: stjohnsarnprior.com

Pastor's Message

Tomorrow and Saturday June 26, **Chairperson of Church Council, Enid Blackwell** and I will be immersed in 2 days of the first ever Eastern Synod Assembly held online (using the WHOVA platform). This will be a new experience for all of us, and for the whole Eastern Synod. Joining us is **Shelley Gauthier (Secretary of Council) from St. James.** (We have been reading through 310 pages of reports in preparation for this conference)

Speaking of St. James, since February 14 there have been many people working "behind the scenes" to help us move to Trinity St. Andrews United Church and our new worship space. They are very grateful for all of the volunteers who have stepped forward to make this transition as smooth as possible. **THANK YOU!** I am aware how hard everyone has worked and participated in our move. I am very pleased to have a new office there with excellent WIFI! *St. James people hope that maybe in the fall we will be able to invite St. John's to "come and see" our new place of worship!*

Our new Youth program called **"Unplugged"** will be starting up this summer. **See the article in the newsletter.** The Team Leaders have had to be patient as we have dealt with the stops and starts of

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"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field; which indeed is smaller than all seeds. But when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches."

Matthew 13:31-32

the Public Health Covid protocols. However this also provided us with the time to obtain necessary policies and procedures in place so that we can safely run an excellent program.

Thanks to the Unplugged Team for their caution and patience during the spring. Please check out the new **"Food Bank Gardens"** at the back door of our church, **courtesy of gardener Jeff Kargus**. This is one of the plans of the **"Unplugged"** program.

Ministry is never "done" alone. It is always completed in relationship with each other. I know we are all relieved to have some freedoms to look forward to in the days ahead. I am reminded of a little story which you have heard before. **This is in memory of Stan Headrick** who loved this story when I had used it in a sermon.

A man was lost while driving through the country. As he tried to reach for the map, he accidentally drove off the road into a ditch. Though he wasn't injured, his car was stuck deep in the mud. So the man walked to a nearby farm to ask for help. "Warwick can get you out of that ditch", said the farmer, pointing to an old mule standing in a field. The man looked at the decrepit old mule and then looked at the farmer, who just stood there repeating, "Yep, old Warwick can do the job!". The man figured he had nothing to lose. The two men and the mule made their way back to the ditch. The farmer hitched the mule to the car. With the snap of the reins he shouted, "Pull, Fred! Pull, Jack! Pull Ted! Pull Warwick! And the mule pulled that car right out of the ditch.

The man was amazed. He thanked the farmer, patted the mule, and asked, "Why did you call out all those names before you called Warwick?" The farmer grinned and said, "Old Warwick is just about blind. As long as he believes he is part of the team, he doesn't mind pulling." *Adapted from Some Folks Feel the Rain: Others Just Get Wet. by James W. Moore*

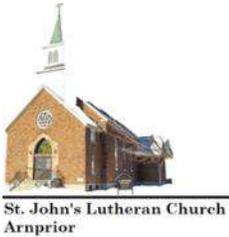
Teamwork in any organization is the ability to work together toward a common vision! It's the fuel that allows common people to obtain uncommon results. God has provided us with an awesome team – including all of you! I am thankful that the Spirit has nudged you all forward to share your special talents and gifts, as you live as the priest hood of all believers! **Let us be thankful for one another!**

As you head out for holidays, I want you to remember three things. **Be cautious** and stay safe! **Remember** your church offerings over the summer. **Join us** for our first worship together in person on **Sun. August 1 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Johns!**

May God provide each and every one of you with rest during your summer days.
Sincerely, Pastor Norine

July / August Event Schedule

DATE	EVENT
Sunday July 4th	Pre-recorded service with Holy Communion
Saturday July 10 th	CPR Training for Unplug Team in church basement
Sunday July 11th	Pre-recorded service of Word and Prayer
Sunday July 18th	Pre-recorded service of Word and Prayer
Sunday July 25th	Pre-recorded service of Word and Prayer
Sunday July 25 th	First Unplugged Event—Kite making and flying Time?
Sunday August 1st	In-Person worship service of Word and Prayer. 10:30a.m.
Sunday August 8th	In-Person worship with Holy Communion. 10:30a.m.
Sunday August 15th	In-Person worship service of Word and Prayer. 10:30a.m.
Sunday August 22nd	In-Person worship service of Word and Prayer. 10:30a.m.
Sunday August 29th	In-Person worship service of Word and Prayer. 10:30a.m.



Council Meeting Minutes- May 17th 2021

Attendance (via ZOOM)

Enid Blackwell	David Burkett	Pr. Norine
Alison Burkett	Andy Kalnins	Debbie Witt
Cory Weckwerth		

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and Enid opened with a devotion recognizing National Indigenous Peoples Day. Check in round.

1. **Previous Minutes:** Cory moved that the May 17th, 2021 minutes be approved as updated and distributed, Debbie seconded, CARRIED
2. **Finance:** Alison presented the P&L showing Actual vs. Budget, and the Balance Sheet. She noted that we are behind where we were last year in terms of deficit. Discussion surrounding the creation of a special appeal at the end of the service video for the next few weeks. Andy to prepare the first one. Andy moved and Debbie seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted.
3. **Children, Youth, Family: UNPLUG:** Alison reported that UNPLUG is set for a soft opening on July 25th.
4. **Pastor's report:** Pastor presented her activity report.
5. **Communications:** Enid reported the Facebook activity – 85 reaches May 19 – June 15. A letter in support of bill C-15 was prepared on behalf of council and submitted. Script delivery continues with Keith and Beryl Richardson and Debb and Bob Witt. A special screening of Stan Headrick's funeral was arranged, 10 members attended. Plans for a screening of the Camp Sunday and June 20th service are in the works. 'Meet our Members' Newsletter feature will continue. Community Garden is in place, Jeff arranging volunteers for weekly maintenance.
6. **Constitution renewal.** Debbie expects projected draft available in September.
7. **Outreach:** No activity to report.
8. **Property Update:** Some confusion over connection to the bypass water supply. We are not yet connected, but assuming that we are serviced from McLachlin St., and no temporary is necessary.
9. **Technology:** Still struggling with Audio quality issues.
10. **Other Business**
 - **Reopening:** Given that Pastor is away for 3 of the July services, and out of an abundance of caution, it was decided that re-opening should be planned for Aug 1. (Subject to Pastor). The procedures will be documented in a "Reopening Notice in the July/Aug Newsletter.
 - The calendar of events through August was reviewed. Alison will be asked to spear-head the planned Yard Sale for Sept 2021.
 - The July/Aug newsletter deadline is June 29th.

NEXT MEETING: August 30th, Adjournment: 8:30

Minutes of Special Meeting on June 27th

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. and Pastor opened with a prayer. Present (via Zoom) were: Pr. Norine, Enid, Dave, Andy and Cory.

Andy opened by explaining that an Insurance policy is required by the church and a condition of the policy is that the church must have an **Abuse Protection Policy** document in place by the end of June 2021. The document **Policy_Abuse_SJL_V4.docx** was previously distributed to council. Andy suggested that the document as it stands is an excellent document and will serve our purposes. All present agreed that the document was good, as it stands.

Debbie Witt moved, and Cory seconded. It was passed unanimously. / Adjournment: 1:15p.m.

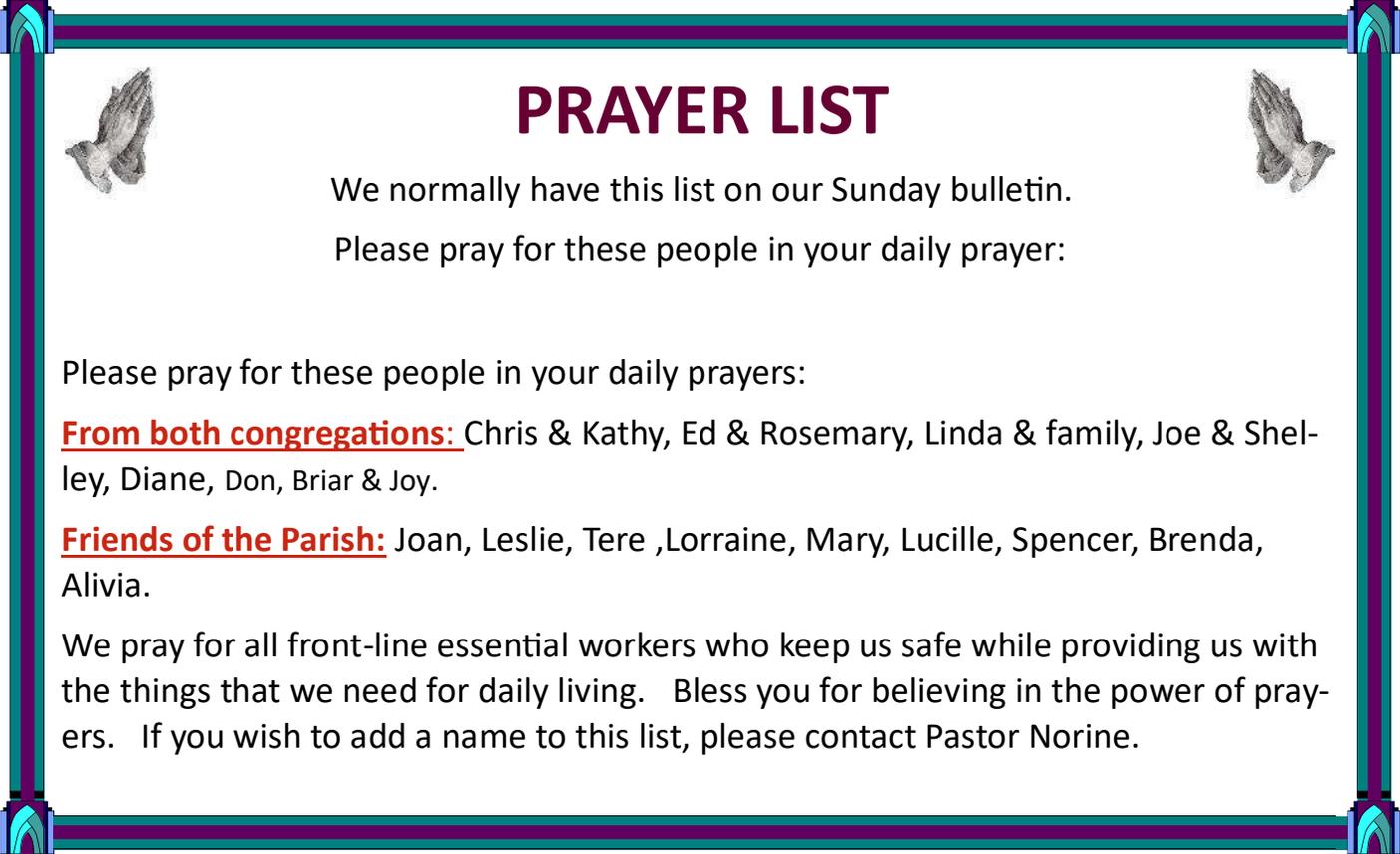
Pastoral Care and Pastor's Break

Pastor Norine will be on much-needed! vacation July 5-26.

During this 3-week time period we are lucky to have Pastor Stan Johnstone available for emergency pastoral care. You can reach him by leaving a message at the church number 613 623-4562 or calling Enid at 613 623-7017. Thank you, Pastor Stan, for being here for us if needed!

Services for July 11, 18, and 25 will be lay led with sermons coming from ELCIC Staff and Bishops. Another chance for us to meet and hear from others active in ministry.

We wish you, Pastor Norine, a restful and enjoyable holiday in July.



PRAYER LIST



We normally have this list on our Sunday bulletin.

Please pray for these people in your daily prayer:

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From both congregations: Chris & Kathy, Ed & Rosemary, Linda & family, Joe & Shelley, Diane, Don, Briar & Joy.

Friends of the Parish: Joan, Leslie, Tere, Lorraine, Mary, Lucille, Spencer, Brenda, Alivia.

We pray for all front-line essential workers who keep us safe while providing us with the things that we need for daily living. Bless you for believing in the power of prayers. If you wish to add a name to this list, please contact Pastor Norine.

Hallelujah! St. John's Re-Opening in August!

We will return to in person worship on Sunday, August 1st at 10:30 a.m. In making this decision, council considered: advice from our Re-opening Taskforce, provincial opening phases and increased numbers allowed for religious gatherings, (for us: 30 now allowed) and increasing vaccination of members and the community. Also, Pastor Norine will be back from vacation by this time.

Here are the guidelines we will be following:

- Sign-in upon entry.
- No screening other than self-screening given our common knowledge of COVID symptoms and community restrictions and practices. Do stay home if you have health doubts or concerns.
- Hand sanitizing and mask wearing in place.
- Verbal participation in worship permitted (prayers, responses, Apostle's Creed etc.) but masks kept on.
- Singing not yet permitted.
- Exiting: by entrance, from back to front, while construction ongoing on Alicia.
- Other procedures remain in place (e.g. offering plates at entrance, modified communion, no social but safe, outside chatting possible)
- Pastor Norine has unilateral authority to stop/delay the opening should public health changes warrant this. As council does not meet July and August, we require this safety measure.

Our plan is to livestream services August 1st and for the foreseeable future afterwards. The streaming link will be e-mailed in advance of the service, and will be on the website and Facebook pages. **Services are always available afterwards using the same link.** We will continue preparing and delivering complete service text scripts in July to households without internet, but discontinue this ministry in August as we move to live service.

We hope and encourage all without internet, as well as all those with!, to gather in the building for worship together as you are able. Drives for those who need them will be gladly arranged. Don't hesitate to call Enid at 613 623-7017 on this or other needs, call other council members or leave a message at the church number: 613 623-4562.

Still keep in touch round the circle and within the broader community as we transition and beyond. Connecting whenever we can is life-giving.

As always, thank you for faithful care, support and hope. Wishing you, your families, friends and neighbours a safe, rejuvenating summer.

St. John's First Ever Community Vegetable Garden



Good News! We have built two 4x8 vegetable garden bins at St. John's to grow carrots and onions. All the harvested veggies will be donated to the Arnprior Food Bank. We hope to entice the gardeners in our Congregation to take a turn weeding and watering over the summer months.

Think of this as a great way to "grow" some memories with the "young ones" in your family and show off those great gardening skills you have!!

For the past 4 years, Randy Zimmerling has volunteered with **Neighbour-Link Fountain** and represented St. John's Lutheran at its annual meetings. This organization is housed in the former Alexander Reid Public School on Mary Street. In May 2021, Randy was elected to the Fountain's Board of Directors.



Randy's work with the Fountain has involved purchasing gas vouchers as required, and occasionally delivering groceries for those who needed this service. He is presently using his financial and administrative skills in helping to establish the protocols required for Covid funding, working on several grant submissions, and in identifying and redistributing surplus electronic equipment.

Thank you, Randy, for your service to our local community through this multi-church service agency!

Some highlights from the Fountain's recent annual meeting, held over Zoom:

- 1,900 meals distributed in 2020; 1050 already delivered in 2021, mainly by Knights of Columbus plus Fountain volunteers. Most of the food was prepared by Antrim Truck Stop and Sandee's Country Kitchen
- \$2,700 in vouchers/gift cards distributed in 2020.
- Other churches are helping with: delivery of food, preparing meals for clients at the Fountain when COVID protocols allow, cash donations and voucher purchases.
- In 2020, church donations dropped 44% over 2019, and there was no fundraising, but grants from Renfrew County and United Way helped to offset these reductions.



Happy CANADA DAY



*Thomas (older) & Alistar
(children of Rachel and Aman),
off on a Canada Day adventure.*



*Kaleigh and her cousin
Chloe In their Red and
White finest.*



Long ago when Canada was first being settled by European explorers, they came to the realization they needed one name to call this great land. However, nobody could agree. One man was elected to pull letters from a hat. He reached into the hat and pulled just three letters and read them aloud:

“C, eh?”

“N, eh?”

“D, eh?”

And that’s how Canada got its name.



**Kaleigh Craig
turned 8 on June
24th**



**New Puppy "Onyx" —
Kaleigh is taking great
care of him while also
helping with her cat and
our older dog Hoyt.**



July / August 2021

CELEBRATE!

BIRTHDAYS

July 10th—Kalin Brohart

July 11th—Maxzene Zimmerling

July 17th—Barbara Formuziewich

July 20th—Alison Burkett

July 29th—Marion Leek

August 4th—Zach Zimmerling

August 7th—Greg Steinke

August 25th—Mark Boese

August 26th—Bill Koops

August 31st—Marion Koops

ANNIVERSARIES

July 2nd—Jeff and Debbie Kargus

**August 11th—Ryan and Julie
Zimmerling**

**August 26th—Russell and Shaundra
Craig**

August 29th—Mel and Marion Bretzlaff



UNPLUG Youth Program (July/August)



FINALLY! UNPLUG will start Sunday July 25 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for children 6 to 12. The activity will be “Building and Flying Kites”. Each child will decorate his or her own kite and put it together; this will be done at St. John’s. Then, everyone will go to Claybank Park to fly their kite. Note: parents or grandparents will need to drive the children to Claybank Park so this is an activity where you’ll need to stay – bring a law chair.

The activity leaders are Dave Burkett, who built dozens of kites as a child, and Sue Nevile, our UNPLUG Program Coordinator and child at heart.

If your children are interested in attending this or other UNPLUG activities, email stjohnscommunications@gmail.com or call Alison Burkett at 613-618-5716. We’ll get a registration form and other information out to you. The fee for each activity is \$5 per child, payable when you arrive.

“Let’s Go Fly a Kite!” – pass the word.

Your UNPLUG Planning Team: Alison, Enid, Ryan, Pastor Norine, Rev. Sue, Jeff, Andy and Rev. Stan

The following article was published in the April/May 2021 edition of **Canada Lutheran**.



Randy Zimmerling: A member of St. John's, Arnprior, ON, where his roles have included chairperson and treasurer of Church Council, youth group co-ordinator, Sunday school teacher and many others; plant controller, director of manufacturing for an Ottawa area computer manufacturer.

I am motivated by the opportunity to make a difference and the personal value I derive from Friendships and learning from others.

My Involvement changed when I recognized that two individuals were “doing it all” in our congregation and I had a strong feeling that I could help.

Mission is service and caring for others, whether it's Christmas carolling at local retirement homes, kicking a soccer ball with kids at Vacation Bible School, or delivering groceries as part of the Neighbourhood Fountain effort.

I was surprised when I got to know our synod leadership. I gained an appreciation for how hard they work on our behalf. Not your typical head office staff, they have been with us through triumph and tragedy.

My greatest satisfaction comes from watching that really shy, withdrawn child come out of their shell and just have fun with other kids, or seeing an adult get the satisfaction out of using their skills to help improve a situation.

My greatest challenge is surviving the “talk it to death” syndrome of well-intentioned meetings.

I get joy from the felling that this is what I was called to do; the absolute certainty that at this time and place, this is what I need to do.

Leadership means being an active participant and willing to share in the heavy lifting along with the planning. It means staying focused on the endpoint and encouraging others that what you are doing matters.

I am inspired by my 90-years-young cousin Lorne who lives ever day to the fullest and is always willing to lend a helping hand.

I hope that we remain focused on justice for all and improving our communities while maintaining our Lutheran identity.

I encourage others by getting to know them first, recognizing their talent and the effort and sacrifice they are making to contribute, and being genuine in praise.

I've been reading *Praying the Catechism* by Rev. Don Johnson. It's a relevant daily worship guide that is simple to follow.

My favourite saying is “do your best and forget the rest.”

Meet Our Members

Meet Our Members

*In our June Mustard Seed newsletter, we found out that **Gerald Formuziewich** is a proud great grandfather to Bowie and Blakely Shipman. Now we say thanks, Gerald, for being our summertime '21 meet-up member. As you will hear, he went from childhood with no electricity to an electronic retirement. . .*

All of my birth family lives far from the Ottawa Valley – my 5 remaining siblings live in the province of Saskatchewan. I grew up with 2 brothers and 4 sisters in Runnymede, a very small community close to the Manitoba border. I was the 2nd born in this large family. My **family life became very busy again** in 1984, when I divorced and then had custody of our 4 boys. Looking after their needs and being employed, I did not have time for anything else. 2 of my boys graduated University with honours. I was a single dad until 2006 when Barbara stole my heart in 2005/6.



I got married to Barbara at All Saints Lutheran in Ottawa on June 24, 2006. Barbara brought into our relationship a married daughter with 5 children. Today, in total, we have 5+3 grandchildren and 3 ½ great grandchildren. We are celebrating our 15th anniversary this year.

A favourite childhood memory of mine is learning by observing and helping my father with his work around our home. He was a jack of all trades. Dad was employed on the railway for CNR so we always lived close to railway tracks. We had no electricity or indoor plumbing. We used a wood stove for cooking and heating. Our small acreage made us self sufficient with garden products and a few farm animals. We often stored away 50 bags of potatoes each year! My mom did lots of canning in those days. My dad was often required to work away from home, leaving my mother responsible for taking care of the animals and the family. I had a lot of outdoor duties starting around 8 years old – helping mom when she needed me, also feeding and taking care of the animals and chopping wood. I remember walking about 1/2 mile to school in all types of weather. When I was in high school, I travelled to Kamsack by truck, but when the roads were closed due to snow, we were sent by train.

I was 17 years old when I quit school and went to Ottawa to find a job. I lived with a relative, and in 1957 started with the federal service Comptroller of the Treasury, which much later became the Dept. of Supply and Services, where I retired 37 years later in 1994. Initially earning \$100 month as a data processing operator, I handled card cheques. Later we progressed to computers where we started printing paper cheques such as Family Allowance

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Meet Our Members, continued

and OAS cheques, printing from magnetic tape. At this time, large computers came into use. Over the years, I took courses to upgrade my abilities and ended up as a Computer Analyst. I was involved in assisting in decentralizing work to provincial offices, travelling to each location, installing operating systems and training operators. After that was completed, I became the contact for resolving operational problems for both operators and programmers - **work I really enjoyed**. On retiring from the Civil Service, I returned to Saskatchewan to help an old relative with spring seeding and fall harvesting of wheat, barley, oats and canola. I always had a passion to farm, a bit of a full circle!

I love keeping busy and helping others whenever I can. I also love taking long walks, especially on nature trails. Spending time with our grandchildren, and now our great grandchildren, is my favourite thing to do.

My connection with St. John's began about 10 years ago. Barbara and I became members around 2012. Over these years, I have **done a lot of property work**. A big project was painting in many parts of the building. For the last 3-4 years, Barbara and I have been regularly cleaning the interior of the church, and also serving on the Altar Guild. When the pandemic closed everything, I became the 'checker' of the building, almost every day **'doing a walk'** around, ensuring the place is secure, and doing some sanitizing whenever needed. I also did some repairs like fixing a leaking toilet. You likely haven't noticed me doing lots of this because I usually make my visits around 5-6 a.m. in the morning!

I hope to be able to keep up this work for our congregation as long as I am able. And I hope our faith community can get back to regular services, where I want to be as long as I am alive.

"What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others". Pericles

Greetings from the Grove!

We have not seen each other often or for a very long time, but especially this is the case with our good member and friend Dorothy Homer. Dorothy is now residing in the Grove, long term care home, where she loves to get outside at times. Presently, calls and outside visits can be arranged with her, if you reach Michaela at: 613 619 - 0881.

Dorothy sends best wishes and greetings to all in the congregation.



VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR JULY/AUGUST 2021

DATE	READING	ALTAR	USHERS	COUNTERS	GROUND
July 4 th	Joy Statham	Beryl & Keith		Mel & Marion	Rick & Cathy Frivalt
July 11 th	Maureen Rueckwald	Beryl & Keith		Mel & Marion	Rick & Cathy Frivalt
July 18 th	Mark Boese	Beryl & Keith		Mel & Marion	Rick & Cathy Frivalt
July 25 th	JoAnne Bretzlaff	Beryl & Keith		Mel & Marion	Rick & Cathy Frivalt
Aug 1 st	Cathy/ Randy Zimmerling	Joanne & Lorne	Andy Cory		Rick & Cathy Frivalt
Aug 8 th	Debbie/Jeff Kargus	Joanne & Lorne	Andy TBD		Rick & Cathy Frivalt
Aug 15 th	Andy Kalnins	Joanne & Lorne	Andy Cory		Rick & Cathy Frivalt
Aug 22 nd	Joy Statham	Joanne & Lorne	Andy Enid		Rick & Cathy Frivalt
Aug 29 th	Mark Boese	Joanne & Lorne	Andy TBD		Rick & Cathy Frivalt