



# The Herald

1300 Edgewood Drive, Lima, Ohio 45805  
419-224-9951 [www.zionlima.org](http://www.zionlima.org)

---



## LENT BEGINS

---

FEBRUARY 2012

## Message From Our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

### I'd like to invite you to Lent.

This year Lent begins on February 22<sup>nd</sup> with Ash Wednesday. The service will be at 7:30 pm and will include both Holy Communion and, for those who wish, the imposition of ashes in the form of the cross.



Wednesday night Lenten services will continue up through March 28<sup>th</sup>. The services themselves will begin at 7:15 pm. For your convenience, a light soup/sandwich supper, served buffet-style, will be offered from 6:15-6:45 pm.

The theme that I've developed for these midweek Lenten services is: Finding God's Value. I'm looking forward to sharing it with you.

Looking ahead, on Maundy Thursday (April 5<sup>th</sup>) we're planning to offer a Seder Meal as a part of the worship experience. Be watching the bulletins, website, and Facebook page for more details as they become available. Below is the entire Lenten schedule.

### LENTEN SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Event	Theme
2/22	7:30 pm	Ash Wednesday	Finding God's Value: An Introduction
2/29	7:15 pm	Midweek Service*	Finding God's Value in Our Voice
3/07	7:15 pm	Midweek Service*	Finding God's Value in Our Service
3/14	7:15 pm	Midweek Service*	Finding God's Value in Our Insights
3/21	7:15 pm	Midweek Service*	Finding God's Value in Our Experience
3/28	7:15 pm	Midweek Service*	Finding God's Value in Our Faith
4/05	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday	Seder Meal (note the earlier time)
4/06	8:00 pm	Good Friday	Tenebrae Service (note the later time)

\*Come early (between 6:15 and 6:45 pm) these nights if you'd like to join us for a light Soup/Sandwich supper. (Special thanks to Cathy Lehman for coordinating these very-appreciated meals.)

I'd love for you to join us for the entire journey, but I realize that some may start but not be able finish and others may need to slip in and out. Come as often as you can. Enter as deeply as you can. Whatever works for you will be appreciated by me.

In Christ,  
Pastor Kent

*From the*

*Intern*



*“...for truly to see your face is like seeing the face of God  
since you have received me with such favor.”*

*Genesis 33:10b*

Greetings everyone! Words cannot express how very grateful and thankful I am to each of you for your kind words, cards, candy, cookies, gifts and gift of money; however, most precious of all was the delightful experience of worshiping and serving with you here at Zion during the Advent and Christmas season. Also, the beautifully decorated sanctuary during the holiday season will forever be etched in my memory!

Since the New Year began I have truly enjoyed following the Bible reading plan that Pastor Kent uses for his devotions that can be found on [Fitunderthecollar.blogspot.com](http://Fitunderthecollar.blogspot.com) because this plan begins with some of my favorite Old Testament stories found in the Book of Genesis. The scripture verse at the beginning of this article comes shortly after these words found in Genesis 33: 4, “But Esau ran to meet him, embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him and they wept.”

My observation while reading about this long overdue reunion between the brothers, Jacob and Esau, was how Esau running to Jacob...and their embracing and weeping from joy, reminded me of the Prodigal Son story in 15<sup>th</sup> chapter of Luke’s Gospel. Both of these writings from scripture demonstrate ultimate forgiveness in families. They spoke to me and reminded me of times in my own family when a person needed to be forgiven or who forgave another. How true are pastor and author Walt Wangerin’s words, “The Bible which speaks to the world at large can also whisper personal words in your own ear.”

These biblical stories about forgiveness also reminded me of our Lord Jesus Christ, who demonstrates ultimate forgiveness for each of us who are prodigal sons and daughters occasionally in our own lives. Sometimes...we think, do or do say things we should not. Yet, we have a God who looks upon us with such favor, grace and forgiveness, a God who desires to speak to us even today. A religion professor once told me, “Read the Bible! God will talk to you!” Yes, this is true!

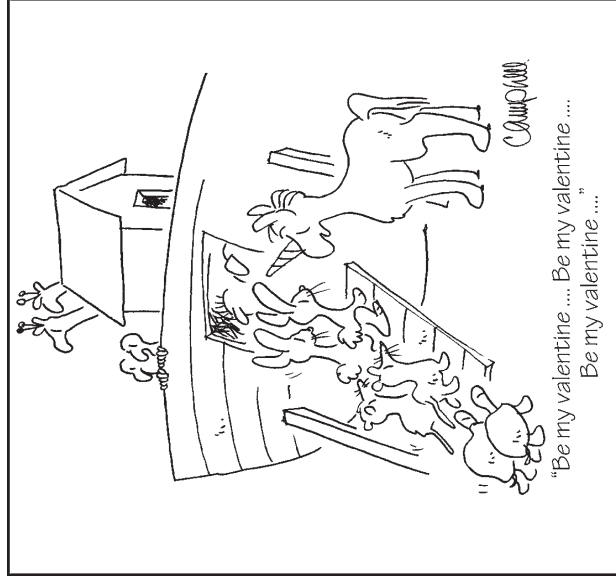
My prayer for this New Year is, “Dear Lord, whether we seek forgiveness or offer forgiveness, may we always praise you, our Lord, who loves us and helps us during all times in our lives. May we all spend more special time with you reading the Bible and listening for your words of wisdom this year.”

Peace and blessings,  
Intern Cindy Ritter

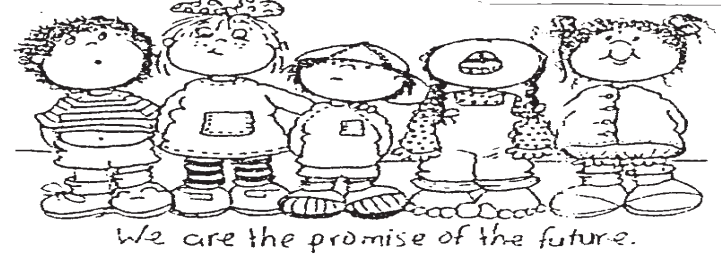
ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1300 Edgewood Drive  
Lima, Ohio 45805

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Lima, Ohio  
Permit No. 4

Return Service Requested



# Deadline for MARCH Newsletter is FEBRUARY 15, 2012



## *News from Childcare*

Sandy Kivimaki, Childcare Director

Happy New Year to everyone. Childcare is back to our normal routine now that January is here. We are happy that our weather has been mild and not a lot of snow.

We are adding a new learning program every Tuesday in our childcare starting January 24 for ten weeks. It is called Dinosaur School and is funded by the Family Resource Center. It is research-based social skills curriculum using preschool puppets. It will teach children positive social skills, conflict and anger management skills, emotional literacy, appropriate school behavior, reading/writing, and communication skills. These classes will promote positive self-esteem which is so important for every age.

We hope February keeps everyone safe and healthy as we wait for Spring to arrive in March.

## Middle School News

**Catechism Schedule** – Here is the Catechism schedule for February. This schedule is also posted on the bulletin board by the coatroom. Be sure to check the acolyte schedule at the back of this newsletter or the schedule that was mailed to you in order to find out your February times to serve. Call the church office with any changes, please.

February 4/5 – Youth Service Weekend - Attend ALL 3 youth-led worship services. Saturday – arrive at 4 PM for rehearsal. Sunday arrive at 8:15 AM.

**No evening class.**

February 12 – SNL – The Last Commandment

February 19 – Servant Event – BINGO at Baton Rouge

**Parent Drivers and Helpers: Manning, Milks, Wilson, Young**

February 26 – AM - Church Visit – Details TBA

**Parent Drivers and Helpers: Reichert, Stolzenburg, Best, Cellar, Christoff**

PM - SNL – The Passion

## ELCA Youth Gathering



2012 ELCA Youth Gathering  
citizens with the saints  
Ephesians 2:14-20

### February's Fundraiser – Sunday, February 26

**Baked Potato and Soup Lunch** – Join us Sunday, February 26, 2012, as we hold our second and final winter soup and baked potato lunch. We will serve loaded baked potatoes, soup, and dessert. The freewill offering we collect will go towards the Youth Gathering Trip to New Orleans in July 2012. Thanks for supporting our youth!

## Information for Calendar

Scheduled Activity	Contact Person	Phone Number
Men's Breakfast	Sam Stokely	419-303-1968
Out to Lunch Bunch	Marie Lawrence	419-225-7071

### Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

1300 Edgewood Drive, Lima, Ohio 45805

419-224-9951 Fax: 419-224-1279

**e-mail:** churchoffice@zionlima.org

**web site:** www.zionlima.org

**facebook:** zionlima

**preschool phone number:** 419-224-7719

### Worship:

Saturday—5:00 PM

Sunday—8:30 and 10:45 AM

Sunday School—9:35 AM

**Pastor:** Rev. Kent Wilson: pastorkent@zionlima.org

**Intern:** Cindy Ritter: interncindy@zionlima.org

**Youth Ministry Coordinator:** Colleen Wilson: colleenwilson@zionlima.org

**Church Secretary:** Tammy Lehman-McDonnell: churchoffice@zionlima.org

**Church Treasurer:** Cindy Christoff: cindychristoff@zionlima.org

**Sunday School Coordinator:** Allen Merricle: allenmerricle@zionlima.org

**Organist:** Mary Jane Eichelberger

**Adult Choir Director:** Marilyn Basinger

**Youth Choir Director:** Laura Ball

**Bell Choir Director:** Jonathan Lischak

**Saturday Night Worship Leader:** Rick Bracy

**Child Care Director:** Sandy Kivimaki: zionchildcare@zionlima.org

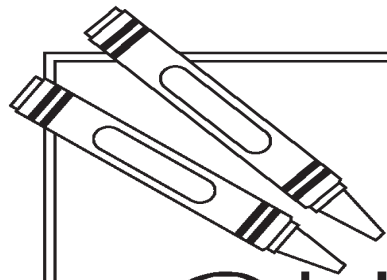
### Church Council:

President– Curtis Young,

President Elect– Diana Schneider

Secretary– Jeannette Douglas,

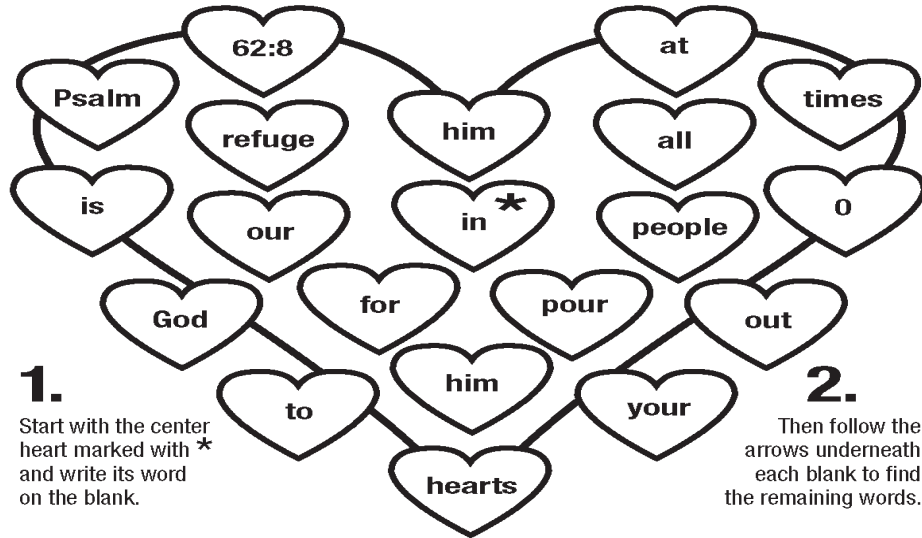
Mary Knott, Carrie Schepman, Cindy Linton, George Carrington, Stan Vandemark & Pastor Kent Wilson.



# Just for **KIDS**

## OUR HEARTS

This special Bible verse from the NIV describes what God wants us to do with our hearts.

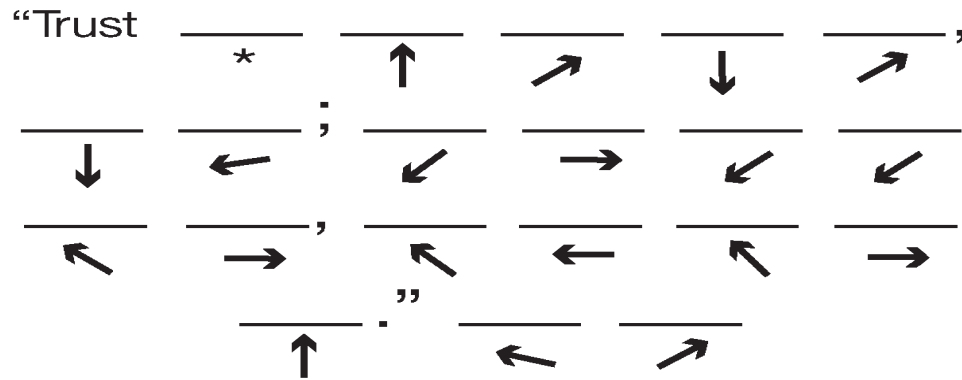


**1.**

Start with the center heart marked with \* and write its word on the blank.

**2.**

Then follow the arrows underneath each blank to find the remaining words.



Answer: “Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.” Psalm 62:8

## High School News

**High School Youth Group** – Join us for fun Sunday evenings at Zion with other high schoolers! Here is February’s schedule.

**February 4/5-** – Youth Service Weekend - Attend ALL 3 youth-led worship services. **No evening class.**

**February 12** – Bible Study, games, food!

**February 19** – Servant Event

**February 26** – Bible Study, games, food!

**Youth Gathering Participants** – Getting Ready sessions for the Youth Gathering will begin on February 5. We will meet in the Lounge right after the potluck. Consider coming to church and then staying for a yummy lunch before we meet! The meeting will last from 1 PM to 2 PM. **Bring your second deposit of \$50 to the February meeting. The final \$50 will be due March 4.** Contact Colleen (419-681-3393) before the meeting if you cannot attend. Please make every attempt to be at each meeting!

Other Getting Ready Sessions:    March 4  
 Mark these dates on your            April 1  
 calendars now!                            May 6

June 3  
 July 1  
 July 16-23    New Orleans!



I want to thank the members of Zion and Childcare for the cards and gifts I recently received. I am so thankful and appreciate each one of them. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.  
 Margery Lehman

I wish to thank Zion Childcare for the lovely Christmas Tree and bag of goodies that were brought to me. Also, the group of carolers who really surprised me after singing a number of Christmas songs, handed me a plate of delicious cookies. We are thankful that we older members are not forgotten during the Holy Season.  
 Dorothy Neu

**Out To Lunch Bunch-** We will be meeting Feb. 15th at *Lima Elks Lodge*, 302 West North Street. Yes, we are going again to the Elks! The food was very good and we had a great time. We all decided to do it again. Come join us for fun and fellowship. Sign up at Sign-Up Central located in the north exit hallway or call Stan or Marie Lawrence, 419-225-7071.

**Greetings to my Zion family** on a cold morning from my house. I'm thinking of you, as I always do on every Sunday that I am not with you at Zion to worship. Hopefully, I am progressing enough to be back soon. Thanks for all your kind thoughts and prayers during this most difficult time.  
 Love & Blessings to you all,  
 Ruth Reddersen

**Surplus/Deficit:**

At the end of December 2010, the congregation had a net budget **surplus** YTD of \$4,888. At the end of December 2011, the congregation has a net budget **deficit** YTD of \$4,597.

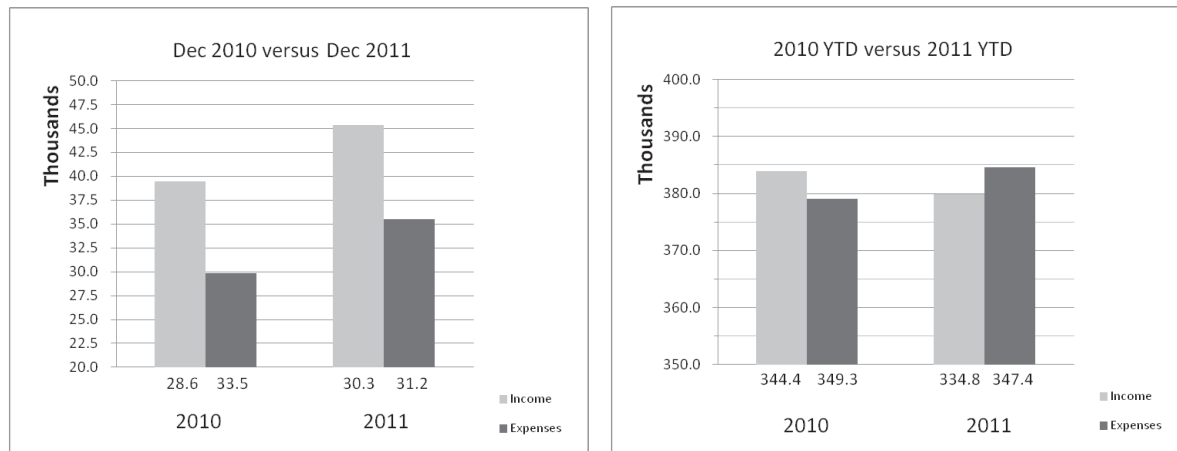
**Investments:**

as of December 31, 2011, Permanently Restricted Funds include:

	previous year	current year	
	Dec. 31, 2010	Dec. 31, 2011	
Zion Endowment	\$467,333	\$465,305	Market Value
Youth Endowment	\$20,000	\$20,000	CMO face value (5.5% APY thru 2022)
Total	\$487,333	\$485,305	

If you have any specific questions please contact Jeff or Cindy Christoff by phone at (419) 339-5111 (home) or by Cindy's e-mail at [cindychristoff@zionlima.org](mailto:cindychristoff@zionlima.org).

# Zion's Financial Report



At press time, financial information presented here for calendar year 2011 is currently being reviewed. Minimal adjustments are anticipated for the finalized report that will be published in the congregation's 2011 Annual Report.

## Income:

In December 2010, income was \$39,455. For December 2011, income totals \$45,325 which is \$5,870 more than the same period the previous year.

For 2010, income thru December totaled \$383,923. For 2011, income thru December totals \$379,931. Year-to-date income thru December 2011 is \$3,992 less than income from the previous year.

## Expenses:

In December of 2010, expenses totaled \$29,815. For December 2011, expenses total \$35,519 which is \$5,704 more than the previous year.

For 2010, expenses thru December totaled \$379,035. For 2011, expenses thru December total \$384,528. Year-to-date expenses thru December 2011 are \$5,493 more than expenses from the previous year.

**Heartbeat Crib.....**You will soon notice a crib tucked in the corner of our narthex. If you are new at Zion, you may wonder why it will be there. Heartbeat is an organization in Allen county dedicated to educating mothers and mothers-to-be about caring for their babies and young toddlers. They provide parenting classes and moral support for these usually young and very needy women and babies. They receive no government funds for the operation of this agency and rely fully on volunteers and their contributions to provide for our county's most vulnerable residents. We at Zion are privileged to be able to contribute to this worthy service by way of the Heartbeat crib every February. Please bring your gifts of clothing sizes 0 to 2T, blankets, small crib toys, diapers, or money. Thank you all on behalf of those who cannot express it themselves. It is always so exciting watching the crib fill to overflowing! Any questions or concerns can be answered by calling Judy Wiese at 41-999-3795 or by calling any Serve Committee Member.

Judy Wiese and the Serve Committee

**Super Bowl Recital** given by members of The Lima Area Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will be **Sunday, February 5, 2012, at 3:00 PM. at the MARKET STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH on West Market and Cole in Lima.** There will be a variety of music and will conclude with an organ duet of Sousa's "The Stars and Stripes Forever". Please plan to come and enjoy. You will be out in plenty of time for other Super Bowl Festivities you may plan! **Please note the change of place! Hope to see YOU there!**

**The media ministry** is a vital part of our church service on Sunday morning and we are looking for volunteers to run the technology at the 10:45 AM service. Experience is not necessary, and it is easy to learn. A seminar will be held after church for interested individuals that will be announced at a later date. A sign-up sheet is posted on Sign Up Central. Please check your interest(s), whether it be camera, computer, or control panel. We need all volunteers to create a rotation that will require less of a time commitment. Volunteers would be working for two Sundays at a time on the rotation. We would like to get the youth involved in this ministry but there are no age restrictions! Contact Dave Miller (419-235-6668) with any questions.

# Monthly

## Worship Helpers

Position	Feb. 4-5	Feb. 11-12	Feb. 18-19	Feb. 22 (7:30pm) Ash Wed.	Feb.25-26
Acolyte 8:30	Libbie Milks	Karis Wilson	Chad Frey	Callee Young (7:30 pm)	Ryan Dickrede
Acolyte 10:45	Matt Cellar	Hannah Reichert	Kobe Christoff		B. Stolzenburg
SAT Helpers 5:00 pm	Aaron Dickrede	Kara Manning	Luke Best		Dalton Reichert
SAT. Assistant 5:00 pm	Sue Fifer	Bud Linton	Intern Cindy Ritter		Sam Stokely
Asst. Minister 8:30	Dick Hagen	Dave McCormick	Intern Cindy Ritter		Tom Ritter
Asst. Minister 10:45	Carol Gibson	Curtis Young	Intern Cindy Ritter	Cathy Lehman	Carol Gibson
Greeters Saturday	JJ & Ski Douglas	Jan Leonard	Tom & Deb Nolte		Sharon Bateman
Nursery 10:45	HS Student	B. Stolzenburg	Taylor Weirauch	Karis Wilson	Karis Wilson
Junior Church	Wilson	Kinnaird	Leonard		Wilson
Outdoor Sign Inside	Dorothy Neu		Jan Leonard		Cinda Rismiller
Outside Sign Outside	Daisy Shrider		Bud Linton		Russ & Linda Wensole
Head Usher 8:30	Dave Hienman		Dan Schulz		Dan Schulz
Ushers 10:45	Gary Howell Jim Allen Bill Glancy Gene Morris Ed Baden	Bill Glancy Jim Allen Gary Howell Stan Vandemark Darrell Ball	Gary Howell Jim Allen Bill Glancy Gene Morris Mark Cellar	Gary Howell Bill Glancy Sam Bassitt Stan Vandemark Darrell Ball	Bill Glancy Jim Allen Gary Howell Stan Vandemark Dave Morman
Bread Bakers	Janice Comeskey	Kathy Radebaugh	Kathy Radebaugh	Diana Schneider	Diana Schneider



**Memorials** were given in memory of Virginia Miller by Ed & Joan Baden, Dick & Janice Schneider, Mike & Cathy Lehman, and Stan & Marie Lawrence.

**Memorials** were given in memory of Margaret Elsass by Don & Frances Schilling, Alan & Cathy Huffer, Mike & Cathy Lehman, Anna Ruth Balmer.

**Thank you so much** for your kind expressions of sympathy. Mom loved her church and its members. Your lovely thoughts at Christmas were greatly appreciated. I took her bag of goodies and poinsettia to her. We went through it and she smiled, however she was not able to eat any of it. I know she felt your love. We know God wrapped his arms around her and loved her. A special thanks to Intern Cindy Ritter; she was a true blessing to our whole family. God bless you all.

Family of Virginia Miller

# Calendar

## *February Anniversaries*

2. Patrick & Barb Cooper
5. Jim & Marlene Brown, Jim & Shirley Weinman
9. Dave & Pat McCormick
14. Denny & Barb Cosart
18. Ron & Nancy Klausing
22. Frank & Ruth Baughman

## *Nursery Schedule:*

Saturday 5:00 pm service	Nursery open but unstaffed
Sunday 8:30 service	Nursery open but unstaffed
Sunday school 9:35	Infant nursery (2 & under) in <i>Hope</i>
Sunday 10:45 service	Nursery care in <i>Hope</i>

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services and are encouraged to participate, as they are able. The ability and desire to participate in worship comes in different stages and at different ages for each child. To assist parents as their children learn about worship, we have the following options. The nursery is available for children 3 years old and younger. We have "Blessing Backpacks", available outside the Sunday school office, to occupy children age 3 through early elementary. Also, at the 10:45 service, children age 4 through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade can go to Children's Church during the sermon.



Childcare Available

## *February Birthdays*

1. Barbara Finitzer, Keith Vore
2. Cory Bowman, Spencer Knott, Cecle Snowdy
6. Bryce Hayes
7. Steve Callahan, Janice Comeskey, Sandy Reynolds
8. Jeane Jennison
10. Lorelei Ball, Judy Hagaman, Scott Williams
12. Jonathan Patterson
14. Jordane Duffy
15. Dan Fifer
16. Thomas Calvelage, Alexis Newbury
17. Karis Wilson
20. Morgan Stewart
22. Colleen Wilson
24. Margaret Blanchong, Lance Rulau
25. Sue Morman, Jerry Sarchet, Jr., Tim Stambaugh, Cody Wiese
26. Jodi (Lehman) Snyder
28. Roy Albertson, George Leiendecker, Diana Schneider

### **Members**

**Did we miss your birthday or wedding anniversary? Then we don't have it in the church records! Please let the church office know what it is so our records will be complete. Thank you!**