



newsletter

Northwest Hills Church
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Rev. Alex Wolf, Pastor
Cheryl Morehouse, Office Administrator

Vol. 53 No. 10
September 23, 2025

Barb Renicker, Music Director
Nate & Rita Merriam, Custodians

October 2025

<p>October 5</p>  <p><i>Neighbors in Need Offering</i></p>	<p>9:30 AM Worship/Communion (No Sunday School) Luke 17:5-10, "How Much Faith is Enough?" 2-4 PM Jim & Jane Skrobo Reception—C 6:30 PM Square Dancing—FH</p>
<p>October 12</p>  <p><i>Newsletter Deadline!</i> <i>Deadline to bring White Elephants!</i> <i>Deadline to bring UN-PRICED crafts!</i></p>	<p>9:30 AM Worship/Sunday School Luke 17:11-29, "Give Thanks!" 10:30 AM Joint Ruth Circle/Fellowship Cmte. Coffee—C Afternoon: set up Fellowship Hall for Book Sale</p>
<p>October 19</p> 	<p>9:30 AM Worship/Sunday School Luke 18:1-8, "Never Give Up" 10:30 AM Polity of Northwest Hills Church—Rm. 128 6:30 PM Square Dancing—FH</p>
<p>October 26</p> 	<p>9:30 AM Worship/Sunday School All Saints' Service of Remembrance 10:30 AM Taylor Family Coffee Fellowship—C 4-6 PM Trunk or Treat—FH and back parking lot</p>

MISSION & SERVICE OCTOBER PROJECT

TRUNK OR TREAT OCTOBER 26th from 4 to 6 pm!
We would like everyone to start planning decorations for their trunks. Need ideas? Check out Pinterest or see Kathy Caito. We need everyone's participation whether you decorate a car, help in the kitchen, greet our guests or bring candy, soup or supplies. See sign-ups in the Commons. Thanks for your help with this fun event!

—Missions & Service Committee



MISSION & SERVICE LOOKING AHEAD:
Coat Drive for the Salvation Army Night Watch program! We will be collecting children's, women's, and men's coats during November and December.

*Deadline for articles/information for the monthly newsletter is usually the second Sunday for the next month's newsletter.
Thank you in advance for your contributions!*

CRAFTERS! Please join the Craft Fair Crafters the last two Wednesdays 1-3 PM in Room 128 on October 1st and 8th. Please bring any finished crafts to be priced. We need set-up help Oct. 16-17 starting at 9:30 AM, and help Saturday with cashiers and bagging purchases. Please do not arrive any earlier than 9:30 AM on set-up days so that tables/items can be set up in proper locations. Questions call Leigh Powell at 402-680-1366. Books can be donated and brought to Room 119 and placed on floor by October 1st. Donated baked good will be accepted Friday, October 17th from noon-3. On Saturday, baked goods need to be delivered prior to the 9 AM start time. We are requesting that cookies/bars/candies be packaged in sets of 4 or 6 or 12 so that we can provide consistency in pricing to our customers that busy day. Thanks in advance for your contributions and help!

CRAFT FAIR

Square Dancing this month will meet Sunday evenings in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30-8:30 PM on October 5th and 19th. Here are a few photos from our past sessions. Come and enjoy the fun! Any questions, please contact Darwin Barker at 402-210-6228.



CRAFT FAIR DEADLINES:

Wednesday, October 1st: book donations
 Sunday, October 12th: white elephant donations
 Sunday, October 12th: UN-PRICED craft item donations (PRICED craft donations will be taken up to the morning of the craft fair.)
 Friday, October 17th: baked goods accepted between 12 noon and 3 PM.

RUTH CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, October 7th at 11:00 AM in the Commons. Dessert provided by Deb Shafer. For any questions, please contact co-chair Kathleen Hammond at 402-981-3630.

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION will have their meeting on Thursday, October 2nd at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Devotions by Kathleen Hammond; dessert provided by Ardell Reuter. We will be voting for officers at the November 6th meeting, so mark your calendars and please make every effort to attend. Questions? Please contact Kathleen Hammond.

SARAH CIRCLE will meet as needed. Questions? Contact Terri Burrig, 402-659-6913. The "stitchers" will NOT be meeting October 14th or 17th due to the craft fair.

MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST: We look forward to getting together on Saturday, October 4th at 9:00 AM in the Commons for our BYOB: "Bring Your Own Breakfast." All men of the church are invited for this great time of fellowship!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDIES are held at 10:00 AM in Room 128, unless noted otherwise. All are invited to come and enjoy this great time of fellowship around the precious Word of God! We will NOT meet on October 15th due to the craft fair.

WHITE ELEPHANT DEADLINE is October 12th for this year's sale. There is a large green bin in the Board Room (down the hall across from the main church office) for your items. Thank you for your contributions! **CLOTHES** are** being collected year-round for the Open Door Mission. New or clean, gently-used clothing can be deposited in the specially-marked bin in the Commons. Thank you for your kindness!

REMINDER: In the closet around the corner from the kitchenette in the Commons, we have a **wide assortment of medical equipment** that you can borrow at any time if needed! Walkers, wheelchairs, ortho boots, canes, straps....about anything you could need. Don't go rent or buy, when you can just sign out what you need, and return when not needed anymore, so someone else can use. What a blessing!



This year in preparation for the Thanksgiving meal give-away at Holy Cross Lutheran Church (our food pantry partner we support year-round,) Holy Cross is doing something different. Kelli from the Food Pantry is asking

three church partners (Maplewood United Methodist, Lord of Love, and Northwest Hills Church) to each take ONE of their requested items (see letter below) with a goal of collecting 200 of that one items. Northwest Hills Church goal item is BOXED CAKE MIXES. Let's go! Here is an excerpt from that request letter:

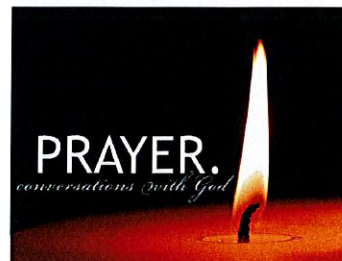
*Hello - my name is Kelli Joseph and I am the co-leader of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church food pantry. We are busy preparing for the Thanksgiving pantry, which is our largest pantry of the year. Last year we served close to 200 families during our Thanksgiving food pantry and expect to see an increase this year. This year we are asking our church partners, who wish to participate, for donations of **boxed stuffing, boxed cake mixes and canned frosting.** Folks coming through the pantry will receive the normal pantry sacks along with a turkey, bag of potatoes, green beans, boxed stuffing, cake mix and frosting....donations are needed by November 10.*

Thank you in advance for your faithfulness over the years in helping us serve and feed the hungry in our community!

*Kelli Joseph
Holy Cross Lutheran Food Pantry*



P.S. As always, we will continue to accept any and all non-perishable food items year round, including during this special drive to collect boxed cake mixes. ALL donations are always greatly appreciated as we collaborate with other churches to alleviate food insecurity in our community by feeding the hungry.



Prayer chain requests can be called to Ardell Reuter at 1-918-703-1068 or the church office at (402) 572-8392.

Thank you for your kind responses regarding updating our prayer list. We are always encouraged to hear when our loved ones are much improved. Please continue to let us know of any changes so that we can update our list and assure that the prayers going out weekly are the most current and urgent needs expressed. Thank you in advance. The ongoing list is below:

Continued Prayer Requests: Sandy Christopherson, Dianne Hasch (Dianna Cupps' friend), Jeff Walton, Susie Ryan, Cierra Ervin, Kyle Hurt & Jacoby, Marchelle Conrad, Peg Hawkins (friend of Annie Kuti), Steve Swift, Jerrie Wilcox, Tom Vincent, Nikki Heim, Elaine Jenkins, Cindy Key, Joanne Mears, Vicky (Nikki Heim's daughter); Suzy Salonen, Linda Nelsen, Urban family, Benita Davis (Deb Hahn's mother), Molly McCoy

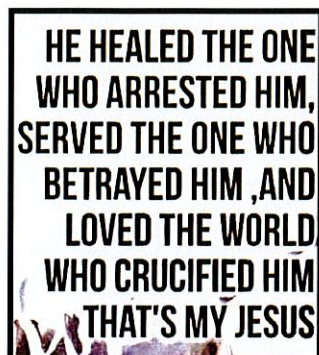
On-Going Cancer Treatment: Mike Lambert, Mary Larson, Patricia Gename (Mary Hinman's daughter), Dave Merriam, Sue Day, Sharon McNutt (Ruth Negus' friend's sister), Betty Benskin, Judy Intlekofer, Gail Formanack (friend of Bev Ambrosius), Gary Dutton, Ena Nolan, (Leigh Powell's niece), Bill Owens, Pat Mixan, Sharon (Judy Cratty's sister)

"He sent His Word, and healed them"

— Psalm 107:20

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."

— Isaiah 53:5



FROM PASTOR ALEX WOLF

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Recently, I had a conversation with Isobel Taylor about self-driving cars. During our chat, Isobel mentioned that she thinks there's a connection between self-driving cars and faith. I believe Isobel is right. What can self-driving cars teach us about our faith?

One lesson self-driving cars can teach us regarding faith is about surrendering control. When a passenger enters a self-driving car, they relinquish direct control of the steering wheel, the accelerator pedal, and the brakes to the car's artificial intelligence. In a similar way, our faith involves trusting in God's plan, handing over our lives to the direction of the Holy Spirit.

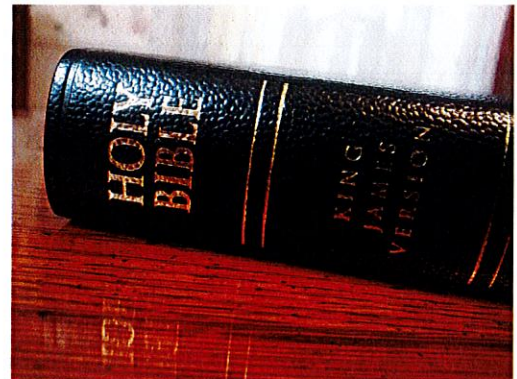
A second lesson is about trust. When riding in a self-driving car, the passenger must trust that the car's artificial intelligence, algorithms, and sensors are capable of traversing the complex and unpredictable environment of the road. Our faith calls us to trust in God's wisdom, that Jesus' way is truly the best way to navigate us through life.

A third lesson is about purpose. The idea behind the technology of self-driving cars is to get the passenger to their destination as safely and directly as possible. Our faith also provides us with the purpose of knowing and sharing the love of God in Jesus Christ and with the ultimate destination of resting safely in God's hands both now and for eternity.

Riding in a self-driving car takes some faith. The reliability and safety of self-driving cars is still a work in progress. Following Jesus also takes faith, but He is always trustworthy and He has shown to be faithful in getting you where you're going.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Alex



Sermon Topics and Scriptures for October

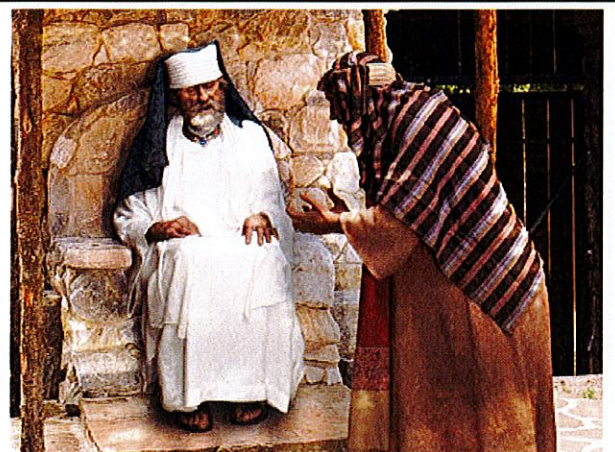
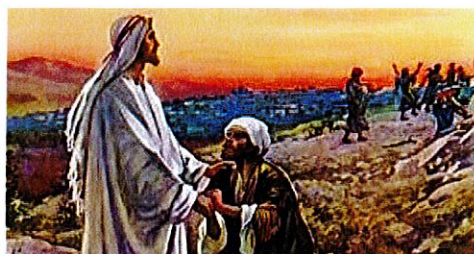
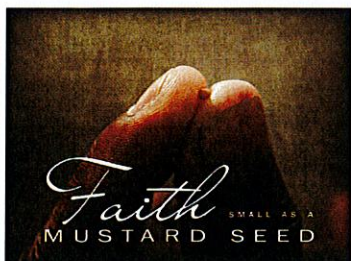
October 2025 Sermons

October 5 Luke 17:5-10 "How Much Faith is Enough?"

October 12 Luke 17:11-29, "Give Thanks!"

October 19 Luke 18:1-8, "Never Give Up"

October 26 All Saints' Service of Remembrance



Northwest Hills Church Annual Craft Fair

9334 Fort Street — (402) 572-8392

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025
9:00 AM—3:00 PM

Come join us for your holiday shopping!

Handmade seasonal crafts, needlework,
knitting, crochet

Bake sale: breads, cakes, pies, cookies,
fudge, jams

Book sale, lower level

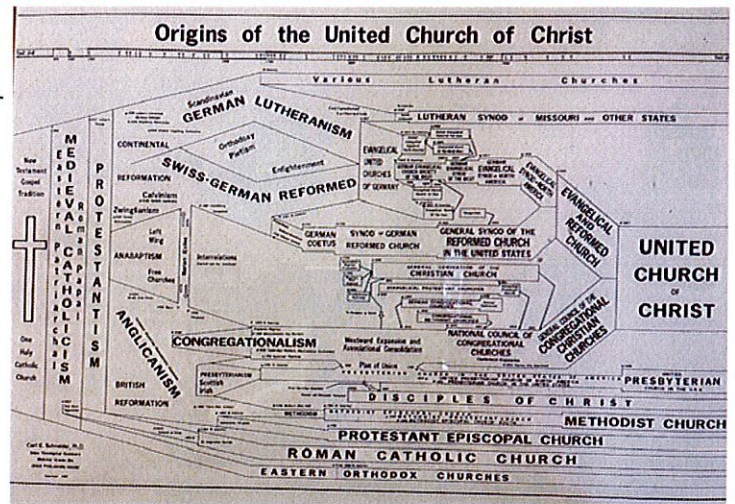
Huge white elephant sale,
community room-upper level

Lunch served, fellowship hall, lower level:
sloppy joes or hot dogs, chips, bars, beverage,
11 AM—1:30 PM \$8.00 per person

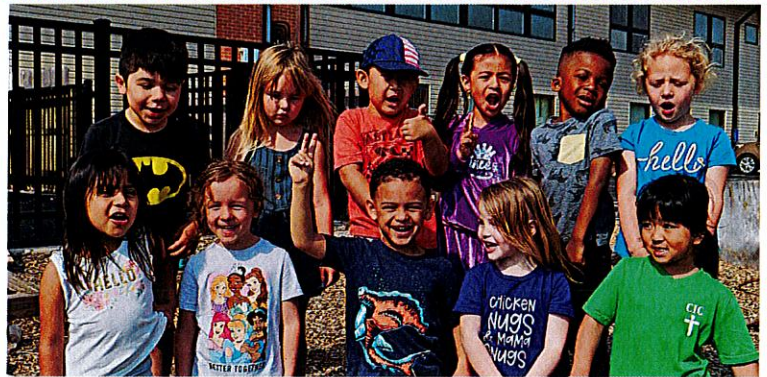
Adult Learning Opportunities

Please join us on October 19th for the last in the Adult Learning series. We will meet in Room 128 after the morning service! Pastor Alex will be giving a presentation on the Polity of Northwest Hills Church.

October 19—Polity of Northwest Hills Church



Canasta Club will be attending the Beaumont Omaha Assembly #91 Card Party from 10-2 on Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at the Papillion Masonic Center, 8411 Centennial Road, Papillion, NE 68046. A Salad Luncheon will be at 11:30 AM for a donation of \$10.00 per person. To reserve your table(s) now to play cards, Mah Jongg, Mexican Train, Cribbage, etc., call Marna Raymond at 402-981-4713 or NotNKansas@cox.net by October 6th (leave a message if Marna doesn't pick up). Door prizes will also be available! If you have any questions, or would like to join, please contact Deb Shafer 402-999-1052 or email ddshafer@outlook.com. We still need subs (men or women). Please contact Ardell Reuter at 1-918-703-1068.



SPOTLIGHT: Northwest Hills Preschool

We have a total of 13 students enrolled, with five on our waitlist! Wow! Word is out in the community about our awesome preschool! We are searching for a sub or two to have on "standby" (in addition to having Cheryl and Suzy (anyone interested?))

We have two students who have asked for a little bit of help financially in way of a small scholarship.

We continue to have the honor of serving several international students with quite a few languages being spoken by our families.

Word got out regarding our little school by means of repeat families, word of mouth, our beautiful new banner, the Easter Egg Hunt, and various posts on different Facebook groups (online advertising) — WOOHOO!

The October verse is: "There is a time for everything." Ecclesiastes 4:32

As always, thank you for your faithful support and prayers!

Jacque, Lori, Robin

HATS GLOVES, MITTENS & SCARVES!



October 19th through November 23rd Sarah Circle will be collecting and donating these items for men, women, & children served by Open Door/Lydia House this winter. Look for a display in the Commons. For questions, please call Terri Burright at (402) 659-6913.

BAKE SALES are coming! Save the dates and mark your calendars for Sarah Circle Bake Sales orders due Nov. 16th (pick up 11-23) and orders due Dec. 14th (pick up 12/21). Order forms will be available closer to those dates.



Blessing of the Animals
Saturday, October 4, 10:30 AM

"Praised be You, my Lord,
with all Your creatures..."
Francis of Assisi, *The*
Canticle of the Creatures

Everyone is invited to bring
your pet(s) for our annual
Blessing of the Animals on
Saturday, October 5th



10:30 AM. The brief
service will be in the
Memorial Garden on the
west side of the church.
Please bring your dog(s)
on a leash and other pets
in their appropriate
carriers. If your pet does
not play well with others,
you may bring a picture of your pet.



Neighbors in Need Offering:
Sunday, October 5th

Funds go to supporting UCC Council of American
Indian Ministries. We will receive the NIN offering on
Sunday, October 5th as part of our World Communion
Sunday celebration.



There will be **NO CHOIR PRACTICE** on
Wednesday, October 15th due to the craft fair.
We will resume practice on the 22nd.



**MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION
DRUG AND HEALTH PLAN OPEN
ENROLLMENT**

It's that time again – the Medicare Prescription Drug
and Health Plans Annual Open Enrollment Period
starts **OCTOBER 15** and ends **DECEMBER 7**! The
2026 plans' information will be on the Medicare
website and the best way to determine how the
changes will affect you and determine which plan
will be best for you next year is to use Medicare's
Plan Finder at www.medicare.gov.

VAS (Volunteers Assisting Seniors) are once again
meeting in person with our seniors to help them
navigate the system and choose the most
appropriate coverage for their respective needs.
The VAS will be accepting appointments at
Northwest Hills on November 3rd and November
10th from 1-4 PM and it kindly holding spots open
exclusively for our congregation on those dates until
October 15th (after October 15th the spots will be
freed up to the general public). So call before then
to set up your appointment if you wish to meet here
at the church. The number to call is 402-444-6617;
leave a message and be sure to let them know you
are a member of Northwest Hills. If you miss the cut
off, there are fliers with other dates and locations
around the city where you can come and meet with
a VAS representative in person.

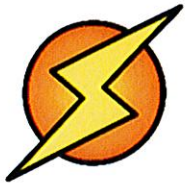
ANNUAL PRESCHOOL PARADE!
Wednesday, October 29th
Approximately 11:15 AM, Upper Level



(2024 pics)



OCTOBER 2025



KIDS QUEST!!
EPIC Youth
PK-High School

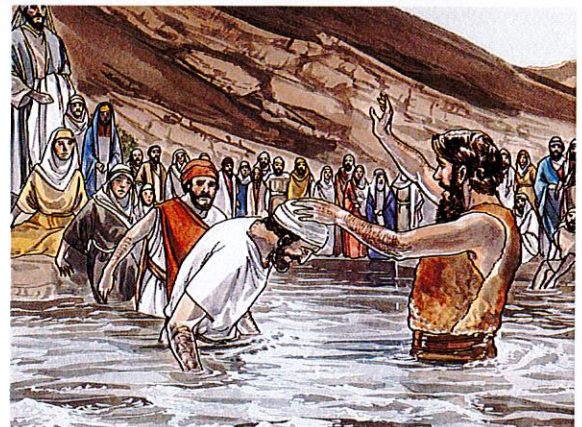


OCTOBER 5 No Sunday School: enjoy the service with your family!

OCTOBER 12 “Birth of John the Baptist”

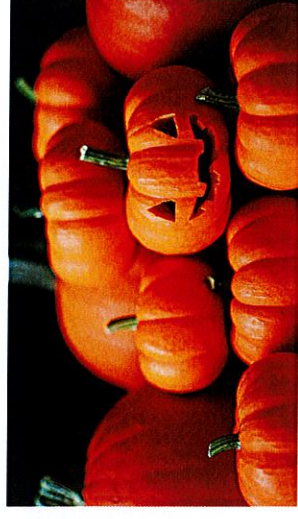
OCTOBER 19 Mission Project! Making Dog Biscuits!

OCTOBER 26 “John the Baptist”





OCTOBER 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10 Bible Study-128 1-3 Crafting-128 6:30 Choir BOOK DONATION DEADLINE	2 12 noon Women's Assoc. Mtg.—FH	3	4 9 AM Men's BYOB—C 9-11 AM Lambert Prayer Group—19D 10:30 Pet Blessing
5 9:30 Worship/Communion (No Sunday School) 2-4 Jim & Jane Skrobo Reception—C 6:30 Square Dancing—FH	6 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	7 11 AM Ruth Circle Meeting—C 7 PM Scouts-FH	8 10 Bible Study-128 1-3 Crafting-128 6:30 Choir	9 8-5 VAS Training Group in FH 7 PM Church Council Mtg. Rm. 128	10	11 9-11 AM Lambert Prayer Group—19D (Tables set up for book sale and craft fair luncheon in Fellowship Hall)
12 9:30 Worship/Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship Coffee—C (Ruth Circle & Fellowship Cmte) DEADLINE FOR WHITE ELEPHANTS DEADLINE for UN-PRICED CRAFT DONATIONS	13 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	14 10-2 Beauceant Card Party— Papillion 7 PM Scouts-FH	15	16 Preschool Parent/ Teacher Conferences 9:30—? SET UP FOR CRAFT FAIR	17 Preschool Parent/ Teacher Conferences 9:30—? SET UP FOR CRAFT FAIR	18 9-3 CRAFT FAIR!
19 9:30 Worship/Sunday School 10:30 Polity of NWH-128 6:30 Square Dancing—FH START OF MITTEN/SCARF/ WINTER HAT DRIVE—C	20 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	21 7 PM Scouts-FH	22 10 Bible Study—128 6:30 Choir	23	24	25 9-11 AM Lambert Prayer Group-19D SET UP FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR TRUNK OR TREAT
26 9:30 Worship/Sunday School 4-6 TRUNK OR TREAT! - FH	27 6:45 PM AA Mtg-FH	28 7 PM Scouts-FH	29 10 Bible Study—128 6:30 Choir	30	31	S: Sanctuary C: Commons L: Library FH: Fellowship Hall

**NORTHWEST HILLS CHURCH
9334 FORT STREET
OMAHA NE 68134**

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OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Virginia Moore	7	Rose Kenney	14	Anna Killion	26	Doug Dudley
2	Larry Kalina	8	Sara Marxsen	17	Kent Beal	28	Jackie Robinson
2	Laurie Massa	9	Jean McKimmey	20	Cindy Key	29	Wayne Bennett
3	Juli Meador	9	James Ryan	22	Isobel Taylor	29	Ginger Broyles
4	Bret Meador	12	James Langdoc	22	Bev Webster	30	Thomas White
6	David Higginson	13	Dianna Cupps	24	Donald Truckenbrod	31	Dennis Webster
7	Connie Anderson	13	Ava Infante	25	John Spencer		

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

13	Robert & Sara Marxsen	16	Rick & Margaret Scofield
14	Dennis & Bev Webster	18	Seth & Emilie Tracy