

September 2026

Official Monthly Newsletter
 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church & Preschool
 9320 Meadow Way, Everett, WA 98208



September 2026

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Sunday Worship is at 9:30 AM

You can stream weekly Worship
 online at pplc.org

A Word From Our Pastor

"Now What Do I Do?"

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. (James 1:5)

What do we do with a loved one who lives alone but does not function well enough physically or cognitively? What do we do in a situation at work that makes our job difficult, and we have come to the end of our rope? What do we do when we want to as a church together reach those in our community with the gospel, but are not sure how? What do we (or I) do with a part of my character that produces a behavior that keeps causing difficulty? Life is filled with these kinds of "Now what do I do?" experiences. Those frustrating aspects of life often cause us to believe there is no hope. And hopelessness often produces anger and sometimes even depression in us. What do we do when we don't know what to do?

God's word tells us in James: "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault and it will be given to you." Wisdom is not the same thing as intelligence. Being wise is not the same thing as being "smart". Wisdom is not like "rocket science". **Rather wisdom is the skill and knowledge that is applied to living life well according to God's will.** The author of Proverbs says, "Fear of God is the beginning of wisdom". The fear of God is understood as living life under His lordship and authority. The Lord promises to guide us in those times when we don't know what to do. And he will guide us through the wisdom that he gives us.

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PPLC Staff

Pastor Gib Botten
Preschool Director: Carol Guanzon
Church Office: Lauryn Brunskill
Preschool Office: Kelly Reynolds
Children's & Youth Ministry: Lauryn Brunskill
Audio-Visual: Kevin Lord
Organist: Linda Walter
Treasurer: Jennifer Pidduck
Custodian: Sandra Barajas

Contact Us

425-337-6663
churchoffice@pplc.org
pplc.org

Newsletter submissions are due
 by the 20th of each month.

(continued from page 1)

So, when we don't know what to do, James says it's time to pray for the knowledge and skill to move forward and believe it will be given to us. We are not left to wallow in hopelessness. As God's children we are promised wisdom when we ask for it so that we can respond to life's challenges with hope.

I would not want to suggest that following God's wisdom will be easy. We may need to repent of our thinking that keeps stuck where we are. For example, if a church (or part of the church) is stagnant or stuck in place it may be easy to assume that doing what was successful decades previously would be the best way forward. If something "worked" then, it will "work" again! But the culture and the generations and the neighborhood itself where the church is ministering has changed. And past wisdom may not be God's present wisdom. What is needed is God's wisdom to face the current challenges as they are now. So, we need to ask for that wisdom for our church as well as for our daily lives—that we might be given that divine knowledge and skill to know what to do. May the Lord give us wisdom when we are lacking. And may we always remember to ask Him for it, believing that God our Father will pour out upon us his wisdom generously as God's Word says he will.

May the Prince of Peace be with you,
Pastor Gib Botten

Men's Fellowship

**Meeting on Saturday,
September 19th at 9 AM
in the Fellowship Hall**

All men of the congregation are
welcome to join in!



Contact
Matthew
Thorsteinson
with any
questions.

PRIME TIMERS

The Over 50 Group

*Potluck Lunch at noon
in the fellowship hall*

Thursday, September 10th



Topic of Discussion:

*"Should It Go...
or Should It Stay?"*



*A shared discussion on how to
deal with your "stuff":
downsizing, eliminating clutter,
donating, and selling.*

Committee Spotlight

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF OUR COMMITTEES?

This month we are featuring the **Committee on Preschool Ministry (CPM)**:

The Committee on Preschool Ministry is comprised of seven members: Preschool Director, Church and Preschool Treasurer, Pastor, Council Liaison, and three at-large members from the congregation.

The committee meets monthly to review financial reports and discuss matters related to the preschool's operations. We support the director by providing guidance, helping develop and update policies, and communicating recommendations to the church council. The scope of one meeting is varied; we go from reviewing budgets and enrollment to discussing how changing family needs, such as later potty training, affect longstanding preschool policies. As our community changes, we strive to thoughtfully adapt so the preschool can continue serving children and families well.

As our community grows and evolves, so does our preschool ministry. The Committee on Preschool Ministry is committed to supporting Carol as she begins her second year as director and to ensuring that our preschool remains a welcoming, high-quality Christian early learning program for local families.

If you have an interest in the preschool's ministry, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Carol Guanzon, our Preschool Director, or Connie Smith, CPM Chair, with any questions. The committee typically welcomes a new member in late summer or early fall, so watch for an opportunity to serve if a position becomes available.

Connie Smith, CPM Chair



thank you

Thanks to all who attended Vacation Bible School and brought food bank donations & to all who've donated food for the Volunteers of America Food Bank. On August 17th, 223 lbs of food was delivered to the food bank, for which they were extremely thankful. Thank you for your continued support of this effort!

Youth & Education News:



- **Kid's Sunday School returns for the fall on Sunday, September 13th!**
 - We meet downstairs after the Children's Message during worship every Sunday (unless otherwise noted).
 - Kids ages 4 years through 5th grade are invited to join us!
 - If you're interested in joining our team of Sunday School teachers, please contact Lauryn Brunskill! Older kids are also welcome to join us as assistant volunteers!
- **Confirmation Class scheduling for 7th and 8th graders is in the works!**
 - If you have a confirmation student, keep an eye out for communications on meetings from Lauryn Brunskill and Pr. Botten.
 - Please reach out to Lauryn or Pr. Botten if you have a student ready to join Confirmation class and we haven't spoken with you already!

The Sermon on the Amount

Not many people would name the issue this way, however, it is anticipated this time of year. When the new church budget is about to be presented, thoughts drift to how much we will be expected to give in support of the church's expenses. I'm here to tell you that it's not that simple. If the church's expenses and activities were just a matter of writing a check, we would be missing the point.

Stewardship has more to do with the real Sermon on the Mount, which doesn't even mention money. Like this sermon stewardship must begin with Jesus, our relationship to our Savior. When that relationship is strong, we don't think about duty and payment; we think about our calling and our gifts. So let's begin our time of remembering stewardship with a review of all that Jesus has done for us and how we are new creatures in Him.

Linda Fargo, Stewardship Chair

Missional Concerns Committee Bucket Drive

The Missional Concerns Committee is planning a combined missional and fellowship luncheon on September 19th for an NALC Disaster Response “Stuff the Trunk” event.

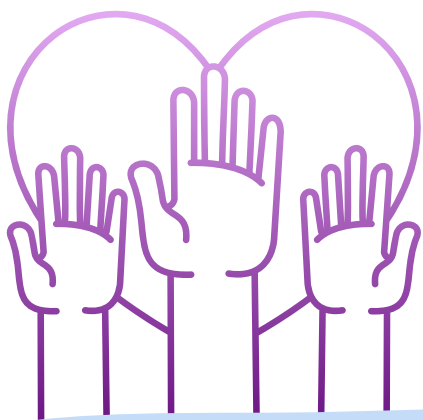
The collection of supplies will begin on August 2 and run through September 13. Buckets will be provided. After the luncheon on September 19, attendees are invited to help fill each bucket with the required supplies that were collected during the drive.

There is a poster plus actual items on display in the narthex to give you an example of the items that each bucket must hold.

We will also except a cash donation or a check. Checks must be made payable to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church with a note on the memo line of your check saying “MCC Bucket Drive.” If you need a tax receipt for a cash donation, you must give your receipt to the church office plus a note saying “For MCC Bucket Drive.”

For questions, you may ask a member of the Missional Concerns Committee: Judy Chadrow, Rod Gust, Bill Kann, Judith McGregor, or Mindy Staudinger.

Interested in Volunteering at PPLC?



Consider volunteering in our various ministries!

- **Greeting and Ushering** – talk with Pr. Gib or Rod Gust
- **Children’s Ministry** – such as teaching Sunday School, VBS, etc!
- **Homebound Visitations** – talk with Pr. Gib about our diaconal ministry!
- **Hospitality** – sign up to make coffee and bring goodies for fellowship hour after worship!
- + many other committees & opportunities – contact the church office or Pr. Gib if you’re interested!

Ways to Give at Prince of Peace



in-person
offering

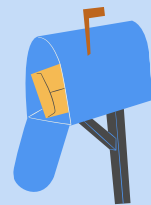
online
at pplc.org



Vanco
Mobile
App



Bill Pay through
your bank



by
mail

with a Qualified
Charitable Distribution
(QCD) from an IRA

Council Corner & Financial Update

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Council

President: Steve Peterson
Vice President: Dan Hughes
Secretary: Wendy Beard

Linda Fargo
 Lynn Junell
 Bill Kann
 Arne Sandvik
 Camie Embacher
 Phil Lee
 David Miles

Pastor: Pr. Gib Botten
Treasurer: Jennifer Pidduck



The Executive Committee of the Council (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Pastor) meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month.

The Church Council meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month via Zoom.

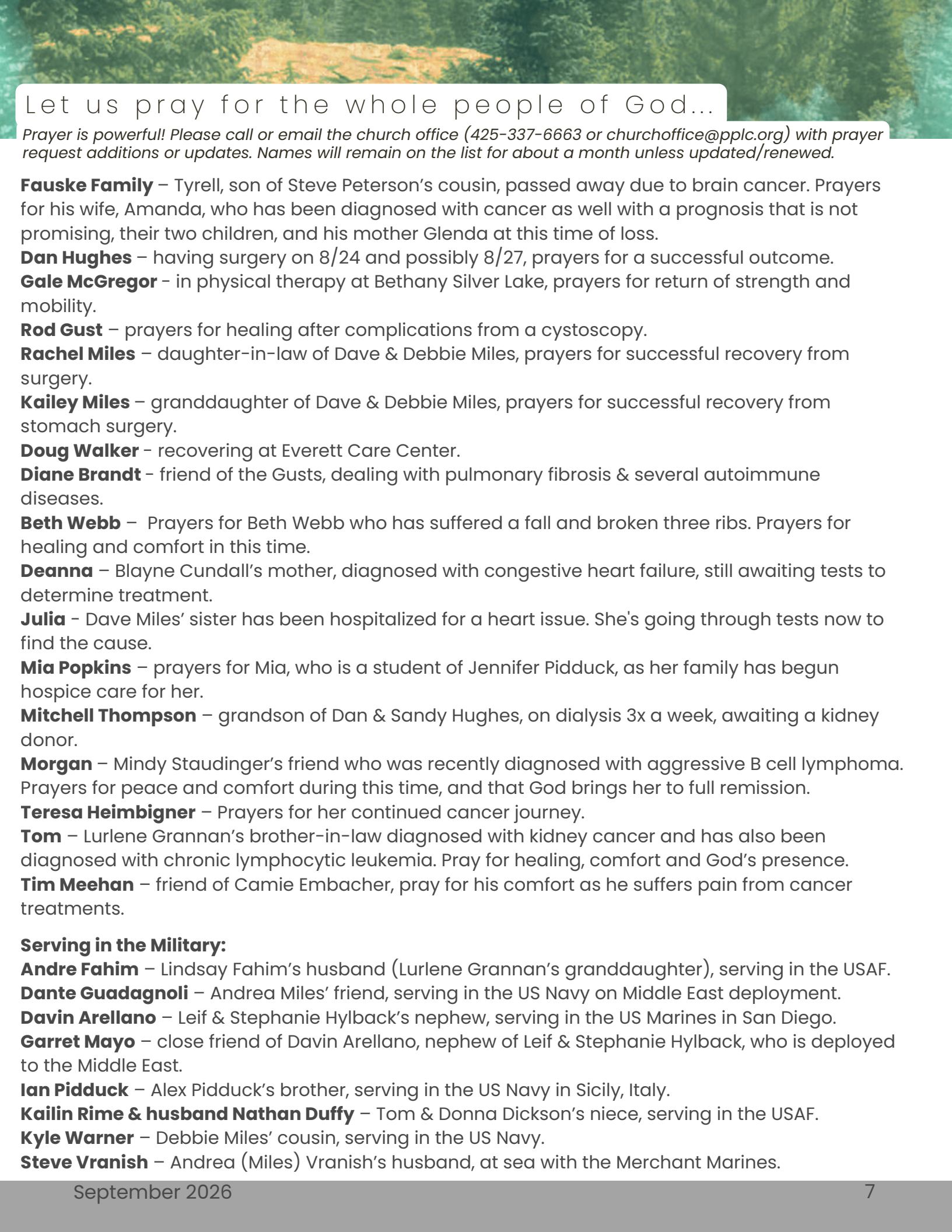
FINANCIAL REPORT UPDATE

INCOME	MAY	JUN	JUL
General Offering	\$16,932.48	\$14,824.00	\$16,935.00
Electronic Offering	\$4,395.15	\$4,894.75	\$3,435.40
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$59.00	\$0.00	\$2,350.00
Fred Meyer Rewards	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Maundy Thursday Offering	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Good Friday Offering	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest Earnings	\$0.83	\$0.81	\$0.84
Facilities Use (Rentals)	\$2,660.00	\$550.00	\$2,650.00
Facilities Use-Memorials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Annuity Income	\$2,466.25	\$2,481.70	\$2,481.70
Total Operating Income	\$26,513.71	\$22,751.26	\$27,852.94
Budgeted Expenses	\$28,851.86	\$22,177.32	\$31,030.15
Operating Income less Esp.	(\$2,338.15)	\$573.94	(\$3,177.21)

FUND BALANCES YEAR-TO-DATE

General Fund	\$90,812.13	\$91,386.07	\$88,108.86
Youth Fund	\$8,970.47	\$9,035.88	\$9,235.88
Saefke Fund	\$21,259.51	\$21,259.51	\$21,259.51
Member Relief Fund	\$500.63	\$500.63	\$500.63
Memorial Fund	\$5,145.36	\$5,270.36	\$5,270.36
Endowment Fund	\$56,332.79	\$55,459.55	\$55,582.20
Men's Fellowship Fund	\$52.11	\$52.11	\$252.11
Women's Ministry *	\$2,561.48	\$2,561.48	\$2,561.48
Capital Facilities Fund	\$43,740.37	\$43,740.37	\$43,740.37
Capital Reserves Fund	\$9,870.11	\$9,870.11	\$9,870.11
Short-Term Missions	\$8,390.00	\$8,390.00	\$8,454.73
Preschool Balances	\$105,175.00	\$93,903.00	\$79,851.00

* Bank Balance as of 7.31.2026



Let us pray for the whole people of God...

Prayer is powerful! Please call or email the church office (425-337-6663 or churchoffice@pplc.org) with prayer request additions or updates. Names will remain on the list for about a month unless updated/renewed.

Fauske Family – Tyrell, son of Steve Peterson's cousin, passed away due to brain cancer. Prayers for his wife, Amanda, who has been diagnosed with cancer as well with a prognosis that is not promising, their two children, and his mother Glenda at this time of loss.

Dan Hughes – having surgery on 8/24 and possibly 8/27, prayers for a successful outcome.

Gale McGregor – in physical therapy at Bethany Silver Lake, prayers for return of strength and mobility.

Rod Gust – prayers for healing after complications from a cystoscopy.

Rachel Miles – daughter-in-law of Dave & Debbie Miles, prayers for successful recovery from surgery.

Kailey Miles – granddaughter of Dave & Debbie Miles, prayers for successful recovery from stomach surgery.

Doug Walker – recovering at Everett Care Center.

Diane Brandt – friend of the Gusts, dealing with pulmonary fibrosis & several autoimmune diseases.

Beth Webb – Prayers for Beth Webb who has suffered a fall and broken three ribs. Prayers for healing and comfort in this time.

Deanna – Blayne Cundall's mother, diagnosed with congestive heart failure, still awaiting tests to determine treatment.

Julia – Dave Miles' sister has been hospitalized for a heart issue. She's going through tests now to find the cause.

Mia Popkins – prayers for Mia, who is a student of Jennifer Pidduck, as her family has begun hospice care for her.

Mitchell Thompson – grandson of Dan & Sandy Hughes, on dialysis 3x a week, awaiting a kidney donor.

Morgan – Mindy Staudinger's friend who was recently diagnosed with aggressive B cell lymphoma. Prayers for peace and comfort during this time, and that God brings her to full remission.

Teresa Heimbigner – Prayers for her continued cancer journey.

Tom – Lurlene Grannan's brother-in-law diagnosed with kidney cancer and has also been diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukemia. Pray for healing, comfort and God's presence.

Tim Meehan – friend of Camie Embacher, pray for his comfort as he suffers pain from cancer treatments.

Serving in the Military:

Andre Fahim – Lindsay Fahim's husband (Lurlene Grannan's granddaughter), serving in the USAF.

Dante Guadagnoli – Andrea Miles' friend, serving in the US Navy on Middle East deployment.

Davin Arellano – Leif & Stephanie Hylback's nephew, serving in the US Marines in San Diego.

Garret Mayo – close friend of Davin Arellano, nephew of Leif & Stephanie Hylback, who is deployed to the Middle East.

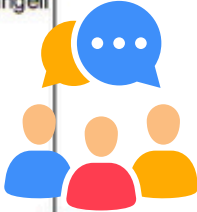
Ian Pidduck – Alex Pidduck's brother, serving in the US Navy in Sicily, Italy.

Kailin Rime & husband Nathan Duffy – Tom & Donna Dickson's niece, serving in the USAF.

Kyle Warner – Debbie Miles' cousin, serving in the US Navy.

Steve Vranish – Andrea (Miles) Vranish's husband, at sea with the Merchant Marines.

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	12:00am Church Office Closed - Summer Fridays 6:00pm Miracles Happen Meeting	7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8:30am Worship Band Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday Worship 1:30pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	Labor Day - Offices Closed 10:00am Quilting 	6:30pm Executive Committee Meeting		10:00am Prayer Group 12:00pm Prime Timers 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church 	12:00am Church Office Closed - Summer Fridays 6:00pm Miracles Happen Meeting	7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8:30am Worship Band Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday Worship with Kid's Sunday School 10:45am Adult Sunday School 1:30pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Missional Concerns/Evangelism Meeting 	2:00pm Book Club 6:00pm Council Meeting		10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	6:00pm Miracles Happen Meeting	9:00am Men's Fellowship 12:00pm Missional Concerns Stuff the Truck Luncheon 7:00pm Ukrainian Baptist Church 
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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27	28	29	30			
8:30am Worship Band Rehearsal 9:30am Sunday Worship with Kid's Sunday School 10:45am Adult Sunday School 1:30pm Ukrainian Baptist Church	6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting	2:00pm Book Club 				