Good News

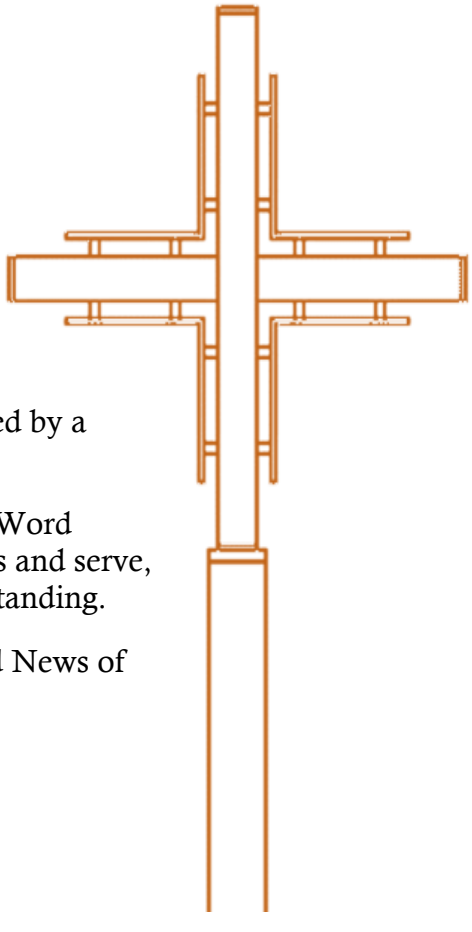
THE
NEWSLETTER OF
ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
474 YALICK ROAD, - PO BOX 802
DALLAS, PA 18612

October 2026

Phone: 570-675-3859
Fax: 570-675-5646
Email: stpaul@epix.net
Web Page:
www.stpaulsdallaspa.org

Rev Charles H. Grube, Pastor
Home Phone: 570-696-2688

In-person worship and communion
Saturday, 5:30 pm | Sunday, 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:45 am (Sept. thru May)
Please continue to visit our website at www.stpaulsdallaspa.org for worship resources to use as you are able, and to join our Live Stream Zoom meeting at 9:30 am on Sunday.



ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a family called together by God and united by a common faith.

Our mission is to share with all people God's Love and Grace through Word and Sacrament. Through the Holy Spirit, we are empowered to witness and serve, treating one another with Love, Compassion, Forgiveness, and Understanding.

By our commitments, actions, deeds, and resources, we share the Good News of Jesus Christ, reaching out to our Community, Nation, and World.

Adopted May 1993

ST. PAUL'S STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Charles H. Grube
Office Staff	Gail Smallwood & Carol Fett
Dir. of Music/Organist	Margaret Quintanar
Youth Choir Dir.	Jean Grube
Minister of Technology	Marissa Miller
Sexton	James Madonna
Sunday School Superintendent	Tony Linnen
Financial Secretary	Ruth Ide

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

2026/2027	2027/2028	2028/2029
Frank Mariano*	Larry Pierce*	Don Kretchmer*
Gail Smallwood*	Bruce Thomas*	Julie Holbrook
Marissa Miller*	Gail Ide*	Keith Brosious
Amanda Brezovsky	Pat Peiffer*	Open Position

*Final Term

CONGREGATION OFFICERS

President	Rev. Charles H. Grube
Vice-President	Frank Mariano
Secretary	Gail Smallwood
Treasurer	Carol Fett

STANDING COMMITTEES

Christian Education	Marissa Miller, Julie Holbrook, Amanda Brezovsky and Keith Brosious
Communications	Marissa Miller/Gail Smallwood
Evangelism	Gail Ide
Fellowship	Julie Holbrook, Larry Pierce
Finance	Bruce Thomas, Pat Peiffer, Frank Mariano, Carol Fett
Head Start	Carol Fett
Health Ministry	Gail Ide
Landscaping	Position Open
Long Range Planning	Frank Mariano/ Don Kretchmer, Amanda Brezovsky and Keith Brosious
Property	Bruce Thomas, Pat Peiffer, Carol Fett and Frank Mariano
Salary Review	Frank Mariano
Social Ministry	Larry Pierce
Staff Support	Frank Mariano, Don Kretchmer
Worship & Music	Pat Peiffer

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next issue of the GOOD NEWS will be the November 2026 issue and the deadline for all submissions will be **Noon on *Sunday, October 18.***

PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. Pray for the Congregation of St. Peter, Hughestown, Prince of Peace Episcopal, Dallas, Grace Episcopal, Kingston and Trinity Episcopal, West Pittston.

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Tom Ash, Chris Bellezza, Annie and Marty Bisher, Pam Cyphers, Mary Lou Daley Button, Fran Dierolf, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Grace Fisher, Marge Fritzinger, Lois Gdovin, Colin Grube, Daniel Henderson, Robert Kline, Martha Kush, June Lorah, Raelene Napierkowski, Wally Richardson, Val Rothrock, Greta Ruckno, Carol Swanson, John Thomas, Colette Weaver, Anita Weiss, Alyson Wood, Shirley Zimmerman.

Please note: Those people listed as Family and Friends will be listed here for a four-week period. Please contact the church office at 570-675-3859 or stpaul@epix.net if you desire a name to remain on the list beyond that time.

Family & Friends: Jack Babuscak, Brenda Banaszek, Alanna Berger, Tim Brown and family, Cliff and Ron Bunt, Donna C., Marjorie Catania, Paul Davis, Janet DeCosta, Debbie Demuro, Harrison Frye, Nancy Harm, Debbie Hilbert, Marty Hille, Joyce Horan, Jenn Hubbard, Christine Ide, Doug Ide, Frank Ide, Candace Jones, Michael Kaminski, Patricia Kay, Joe Kerestes, Debbie Kertesz, Ken Kertesz, Bradley Kessler, Alice Laskowski, John, Karen and Charlie Lulun, Jim Madonna, Carol Marker, Cathy Martin, Becky Morgan, Patty N., Tim Nulton, Sandra Pambianco, Ryleigh Phillips, Paul Pryor, Abraham Quintanar, Febe Quintanar, Andy Reistetter, Doris Rosencrans, Shawn Ruth, Bonnie Ryman, Bob Schooley, Sandra Serhan, Nancy Shymanski, MaryAnn Size, Richard Skurski, Gayle Smith, Sonny Smith, Sandy Sprau, Benjamin Szostak, Abigail Thomas, Larry Titus, Corrine Varneke, Tabitha Walters, Jean Weeks, Nancy Weller, Karen Wise, Peg Wyda, Chris Z., Mary Z., Ashley, Bethann, Keith, Megan, the M family, Johnny, Betsy, Dawn, Jonathan, Joni, Beth, Stone Family, Stacey, Laura, Debra and their families (no last names given).

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CHURCH COUNCIL

Update on the congregational council meeting on Tuesday, September 1:

Worship and Music: Volunteers are needed to serve as acolytes and assisting ministers; both youth and adults can serve as acolytes. Don Kretchmer is the coordinator for acolytes and Frank Mariano is the coordinator for assisting ministers; please contact them if you would like to serve.

Christian Education: A volunteer is needed to manage the church Cradle Roll, a program that provides religious materials for children from birth to age 3. A volunteer also is needed to lead Bible study classes after Pastor retires. Anyone interested in volunteering for these activities can contact Julie Holbrook. Sunday School Rally Day will be on Sunday, September 13 and a Sunday School bonfire will be held on Sunday, October 4.

Evangelism: Members of the RIC (Reconciling In Christ) committee will be on hand following worship on September 12/13 and October 10/11 to answer any questions about the initiative, which will be on the agenda for approval at the January 2027 annual meeting. Preparations are complete for the September 20 Dallas Harvest Festival booth, and a volunteer sign-up sheet for people sitting at the booth is in the Narthex.

Finance/Property Committee: The driveway subsidence has been repaired; minor electrical repairs are needed in the Head Start kitchenette; the timer for the parking lot lights will be adjusted this week.

† † †

It is by those who have suffered that the world has been advanced.

—Leo Tolstoy

WEEKLY WHITE OFFERING ENVELOPES		
	2026	**2025**
January	$ 7,760.63	$ 10,574.77
February	$ 12,154.68	$ 12,263.93
March	$ 13,630.60	$ 12,766.88
April	$ 9,780.39	$ 9,824.75
May	$ 12,530.57	$ 12,036.88
June	$ 10,732.51	$ 10,323.40
July	$ 9,494.81	$ 13,116.93
August	$ 12,899.38	$ 11,710.74
September	$	$
October	$	$
November		
TOTAL	**$ 88,983.57**	**$ 92,618.28**

Budget Update: St. Paul's finances as of **August 2026**

	Jan.-Aug. 2026 Year to Date	Jan. – Aug. 2025* Year to Date
Total Income*	$ 118,808.72	$ 121,643.87
Transfer/Savings	$ 68,846.64	$ 83,638.00
Total Expenses	$ 198,145.01	$ 207,860.28

*General Fund – does not include Special Appeals or Designated Funds

General Fund Monthly Income vs. Expenses

MONTH	**INCOME**	**EXPENSES**
January	$ 14,391.01	$ 30,745.97
February	$ 14,203.61	$ 24,588.29
March	$ 15,507.78	$ 26,955.25
April	$ 14,278.14	$ 19,794.57
May	$ 21,565.99	$ 27,964.63
June	$ 11,566.37	$ 23,702.69
July	$ 12,246.52	$ 22,966.82
August	$ 15,049.30	$ 22,625.71
September	$	$
October	$	$
November	$	$
December	$	$
TOTAL	**$ 118,808.72**	**$ 198,145.01**

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

SPECIAL DATES

- Pastor Appreciation Month
- World Communion Sunday, *October 4, 2026*
- Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Sunday, *October 11, 2026*
- Reformation Sunday, *October 25, 2026*
- Reformation Day, *October 31, 2026*

† † †

Dearest brothers and sisters in Christ,

After twenty-nine years and two months, this is my final newsletter letter to you. It has been an incredible experience living and ministering with you all these years. As I've sifted through files, books, notes, and sermons, I have been given the opportunity to reminisce a lot about people, activities, and events that I've had the honor to share with you and with the people of St. James, Rauchtown, my first congregation. I will tell you one more time, as I have said repeatedly over the years, you are a very special congregation. I have been profoundly blessed in my ministry. And, inadequate as it is, all I can say is thank you. As we both transition to a new beginning, I wish you the richest blessings.

"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6.

In the peace of Christ,
Pastor Grube

† † †

The colors and beauty of autumn remind us that every season carries evidence of God's goodness. As we enjoy cooler days and changing leaves, may we pause to give thanks for His provision and share our blessings with those around us.

REMINDERS…

Please remember when mailing items to the church to use PO Box 802 for the mailing address - do not use 474 Yalick Rd.

† † †

IMPORTANT OCTOBER WORSHIP DATES

Our weekend worship schedule for October is filled with special celebrations nearly every week.

Our annual congregational celebration of Healing will be October 10 and 11, which will feature prayers and rites for healing, including the laying on of hands and anointing with oil for those who desire.

The following Sunday, October 18, will be a celebration of Holy Baptism for our youngest members and for one of our active young teens as we celebrate the richness of God's grace for them and receive them into church membership.

The final Sunday, Reformation Sunday, October 25, will be Pastor Grube's final Sunday with a special service, including a special guest preacher, and a catered reception following worship. There will be no Saturday service that weekend.

† † †

FIRST COMMUNION RECIPIENTS

Late in September we welcomed Milena Waschek, and Soren and Afton Foresman, to the communion table, following their training on Saturday, September 26. This was their first Communion, and they each received their own Bible, a gift from the congregation. We are delighted to welcome them to be nourished in faith through the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

On Thursday, October 15, and on the third Thursday of each month, the Grief Support Group will meet at St. Paul's at 6:30 pm. These meetings are free and open to the public.

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Committee is looking for help to continue some programs that are important to the work of our church.

The first opportunity we have is a Coordinator for the Cradle Roll. This is a detail-oriented job for an organized church member who is willing to offer from one to two hours per month, depending on the number of children that are enrolled in the program. The job involves monthly mailings to families of young children from birth/baptism through three years of age; supplies/stamps are provided and the church office will notify you when a new baptism is scheduled. If you have a little time to spare for this job, we would greatly appreciate it.

Also, with Pastor Grube retiring, it leaves us without a leader for adult Bible Study. If you feel like this could be something that interests you, please prayerfully consider leading this group. If you are interested in the undertaking of either of these roles, please contact Julie Holbrook at the church at 570.675.3859.

ALL SAINTS' DAY DISPLAY/APPEAL

On October 31/November 1, we will display photos of church members who have died this year, and photos of our newly baptized members. During the liturgy, these members' names will be remembered out loud in prayer. A form and envelope for our annual All Saints' Day Appeal is included and donors names will be in the bulletin.

LABYRINTH WALK

St. Paul's labyrinth will be open on Wednesday, October 21 from 3:00-6:00 pm. Church members will be on hand to offer guidance in walking the labyrinth. The walk is free and open to the public. Shoes are not worn while walking the labyrinth; please wear or bring socks. For more information contact the church office at 570-675-3859.

† † †

With the summer season completed and the special events and reunion of September past, Bear Creek Camp focuses on small group retreats and gatherings and sets its sights on January's Winter Connect 2027.

Winter Connect is a winter weekend of cozy cabins, winter adventures, familiar faces, new friends, and a weekend designed to help you grow in your faith. Returning BCC campers and those curious about overnight camp for the first time alike are invited to join the regular staff for this special weekend.

You can see details and register on the BCC website (bearcreekcamp.org). And thank you for your support of Bear Creek Camp and its very important ministry.

† † †

DORAS RUMMAGE/BAKE SALE

Just a reminder that our fall rummage sale will be held Friday, October 2 from
8:00 am – 2:00 pm and
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm; also
Saturday, October 3 from
8:00 am – Noon
(Bag Day)

Happy Shopping!

6261 BUNDLE NEWS

The process of getting to learn more about one another continues with three of our local Episcopal churches as we work together to discern our possible shared ministry through the 6261 model.

At our September gathering at Grace Episcopal Church, Kingston, we reviewed the process and its intent of our bundle congregational gatherings, learned a bit about our hosts, and shared favorite Bible stories and learned about one another, rooting our relationships in God's word.

Our next gathering is Wednesday, October 14, 6:30 pm, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 337 Spring St, West Pittston. This gathering will focus on our respective congregations' histories, important moments, and trends, and will give us all a better understanding of each other's ministry context. The more we are involved in the process, the better it will be for all of us to understand and appreciate the 6261 model and how it might serve us in our congregation's life and ministry going forward. St. Paul's members represented about half of the total attendance at our September gathering.

Thank you for your participation and openness to where God may be calling St. Paul's Church.

† † †

NEPA SYNOD
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod

Synod Bishop Jennifer Dee took office September 1, but will celebrate her installation on Saturday, October 31, at 1:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem, 2344 Center St, Bethlehem. You are invited to attend this Holy Eucharist with the Rite of Installation. ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry will preside at the installation. Hors d'oeuvres will follow the service. You are invited to register to attend and can learn more on the synod's website, https://nepasynod.org/bishop-installation/. The service will also be livestreamed at youtube.com/@NEPASynod,

LUTHER AND THE BIBLE

Reformation Day is celebrated by many Protestant churches on October 31. It commemorates the Reformation and honors leaders such as Martin Luther, whose courage and conviction helped shape church history. Luther's life was threatened because he spoke out against practices he believed did not reflect the true mission of the Church. Forced into hiding, he found refuge at Wartburg Castle as the guest of the ruler of Saxony.

While there, Luther took on an enormous task: translating the Bible from the original languages into German. This was no simple project. At the time, Germany was made up of many regional dialects, making communication difficult from one area to another.

Luther wanted ordinary people to clearly understand God's Word. To make sure his translation used everyday language, he is said to have listened carefully to common speech, even consulting the castle's butcher for familiar expressions and wording.

Luther's translation became a tremendous gift to the German people. Not only did it place Scripture into the hands of everyday readers, but the language he used also helped unify the many German dialects. In that sense, Martin Luther is often considered one of the fathers of the modern German language.

If you are unable to serve on the Sunday for which you signed up, please call either the coordinator or the Church Office – 570-675-3859

DATE	ASSISTING MIN.	GREETERS	ACOLYTE	LECTORS	ALTAR (Clean Up)
October 4 9:30 am	Cynthia Mahalick	Linda Gillies	Volunteer Needed	Melissa Janoski	Martha Kush
October 11 9:30 am	Trish Brosious	Aileen Whalen	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Martha Kush
October 18 9:30 am	Gail Smallwood	Martha Kush	Volunteer Needed	Gail Smallwood	Martha Kush
October 25 9:30 am	Hannah Cooper	Brad & Ruth Ide	Hannah Cooper	Hilary Regan	Gail Smallwood

MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Assisting Ministers: Frank Mariano - 570-401-9611
Greeters: Pat Peiffer - 570-675-1210
Acolytes: Don Kretchmer – 570-855.2552
Lectors: Rachelle Pyror – 571.218.7188

Altar & Communion Bread: Martha Kush – 570-331.9979

Communion Bread

October 4: Joan Williams
October 11: Grace Fisher
October 18: Martha Kush
October 25: Cookie Fetterman

SATURDAY ALTAR SET UP

October 4, 11, 18 -Cookie Fetterman

Oct. 24: Church Service Cancelled

October 2026

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Rev. Charles H. Grube, Pastor
474 Yalick Road - PO Box 802 Dallas, Pa 18612

Email: stpaul@epix.net www.stpaulsdallaspa.org
Phone: 570-675-3859

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:30:am till 4 pm; Friday Church Office Closed

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30 to Noon – Rummage Sale Drop off 10:00 am Alzheimer's Support Group	2 8:00 am – 2:00 pm Rummage Sale 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Rummage Sale	3 8:00 am Rummage Sale (Bag Day) 5:30 pm Worship
4 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Sunday School 5:00 pm Den Meeting	5 10am – Noon Blanket Project	6 10:30 am Bible Study 11:00 am Card Group 7:00 pm Council	7 10am – Noon Blanket Project 7:00 pm Pack Committee Meeting	8 8:32 am Retired Ramblers Breakfast	9	10 3-4:30 pm Worship Panning Meeting 5:30 pm Worship
11 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Sunday School 5:00 pm Den Meeting	12 10am – Noon Blanket Project 7:00 pm Scout Committee Meeting	13 10:30 am Bible This Week 1:00 pm Dorcas	14 10am – Noon Blanket Project; 6:30 pm 6261 Bundle Gathering at Trinity Episcopal Church, West Pittston	15 6:30 pm Grief Support Group	16	17 5:30 pm Worship
18 9:30am Worship Newsletter Deadline 5:00 pm Den Meeting	19 10am – Noon Blanket Project	20 9:30 am Worship & Music Committee Meeting	21 10am – Noon Blanket Project 10:30 am Social Ministry meeting 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm Labyrinth Walk	22	23	24 **5:30 pm Worship is Cancelled this evening**
25 9:30 am Worship Pastor Grube's Final Service at St. Paul's Reception following the service; no Sunday School	26 10am – Noon Blanket Project	27 7:00 pm Finance / Property Meeting	28 10am – Noon Blanket Project	29	30	31 5:30 pm Worship

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NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Mission Support at Work:
Bringing People Together

Ministry across the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod is made possible through mission support, staff and volunteer leadership, ministry teams, congregational participation, and partnerships. This month's newsletter highlights several upcoming opportunities to worship, learn, serve, and connect.

OCT 14

Racial Justice Team Meeting

Wednesday, October 14, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom
Prayer, conversation, learning, resource sharing, and action centered on justice, equity, and reconciliation.
Learn more: godslove.org/racial-justice-team

OCT 17

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering

Saturday, October 17, 2026, from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Location: The Lutheran Center, 2354 Grove Road, Allentown
Accepted items: Baby Care Kits, School Kits, Personal Care Kits, and quilts
Additional collection: Items may be brought to Christ Lutheran Church in Reading on Fridays in October from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. The Berks County collection is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20, at 9:30 a.m.
Learn more: godslove.org/26LWR-ingathering

OCT 17

Handling Conflict in the Congregation

Saturday, October 17, 2026, from 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Location: Trinity Lutheran Church, 175 S. Third Street, Lehighton
Continuing education for current licensed lay ministers focused on handling conflict within congregations.
Learn more: godslove.org/handling-conflict

OCT 31

The Installation of Bishop Jennifer Dee

Saturday October 31, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.
Location: First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem, 2344 Center St, Bethlehem, PA 18017
Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry will participate in the service, with hors d'oeuvres served following the installation.
Learn more: **godslove.org/bishop-installation**

NOV 9-10

2026 Bishop's Conference – "Navigating Differences in a Polarized World"

November 9–10, 2026
Location: Shawnee Inn and Resort, 100 Shawnee Inn Drive, Shawnee on Delaware
Presenter: Dr. Shirley Mullen
Registration deadline: October 8
A conference for pastors, deacons, and licensed lay ministers helping engage disagreement with courage, compassion, attentive listening, and hope.
Learn more: **godslove.org/BC2026**

NOV 13-15

Come Away: Young Adult Retreat

November 13–15, 2026
Time: Friday at 6:00 p.m. through Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Location: Bear Creek Camp, 3601 Bear Creek Boulevard, Wilkes-Barre
Registration deadline: October 15
Organized by Gather Lehigh Valley for young adults ages 18–35. Full and partial scholarships are available.
Learn more: **godslove.org/come-away**

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2027

MAY 15 2027

Imagine More as a Synod

Saturday May 15, 2027
Location: Union Evangelical Lutheran Church, 5500 Route 873 Schnecksville, PA 18078
An event for youth and adult leaders attending the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering to help NEPA participants meet one another, build relationships, learn what to expect, and prepare through worship, activities, and conversation.
More details to come at **godslove.org/imagine-more-as-synod**

Help Make Ministry Possible

Mission Support strengthens congregations, supports leaders, and helps new ministries take root across our synod and the wider church. Thank you for being part of this shared ministry. Learn more about Mission Support and how your congregation can support at **godslove.org/missionsupport**.

ST. PAUL`S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2026

Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 JUSTIN DORAN DAVY JANOSKI CHARLES SWEPSTON	**2** WILLIAM ECK	**3** JAMIE YOST
4 MARY EHRET SARA ENEBOE SAVANNAH KOWALEK, E	**5**	**6**	**7** JACOB CARUSO	**8**	**9** ANTHONY LINNEN CHARLES (CHUCK) SWEPSTON	**10** DAVID SCHEFF
11 ANTHONY KAISER CAROL WITTKAMP	**12** MCKENZIE STOCHLA	**13**	**14** GERALD SIPERKO MILENA WASCHEK	**15** JILL STRETANSKI	**16** KELLY SCHAPER	**17** ALYSSA PRITCHARD
18	**19** TRISTAN BREZINSKI LAUREN KAISER EMILY KANE MYLEE POWERS	**20** CAMRYN HOLLINGSHEAD	**21** SAVANNA ENEBOE NORA GOROLESKI	**22** DIANE FLAHERTY JEAN GRUBE	**23** JUDY BEASLEY ANNA BISHER LAURAN HALL KATHY MICHAEL	**24**
25	**26**	**27** DANIEL CARUSO	**28**	**29** KEITH BROSIOUS DOUGLAS EHRET	**30** RHONDA KAISER ERNIE TAYLOR	**31** TAMMY STOCHLA

Wedding Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 RAYMOND and MARIANNE MANCKE	**2**	**3**
4	**5** LUCAS and LEAH PAMBIANCO	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9** ROSS and JESSICA GDOVIN	**10** BRUCE and AMY THOMAS
11	**12**	**13** DOUGLAS and MARY EHRET	**14**	**15**	**16**	**17** LOUIS (CHIP) and KELLI WAGNER
18	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24**
25 BRIAN and JENNIFER DORAN JOHN and JO-ANN THOMAS	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29**	**30**	**31**