

September 2026

Saint Peter's Lutheran Church

2570 St. Peter's Church Road

Salisbury, NC 28146

Church Office: (704)279-5054

Church Email: saintpetersnc@gmail.com

Church Website: saintpeterslc.org



Church office

Rev. Sue Lynn White

(770) 833-1922 (cell)

(704) 209-1236 (parsonage)

pastorsuelynn@gmail.com

Email: saintpetersnc@gmail.com

Financial Secretary: Jennifer Welch

Secretary: Dena Najarian

Music Director/Organist: Lucy Shue

(704) 637-1425

Custodian: Ronnie & Betty Pierce

Preschool Director: Charlene Childers

(704) 209-1693

Council

Council President: Jan McCulloh

Council Vice President: Dr. Alan King

Treasurer: Linda Lambirth/ Ken Kluttz

Council Secretary: Kathy Lentz

Outreach: David Najarian

Indoor-Property: Dr. Alan King

Outdoor Property: Frank King

Christian Education: Nathan Pressley

Cemetery: Ken Kluttz

Youth: Jan McCulloh

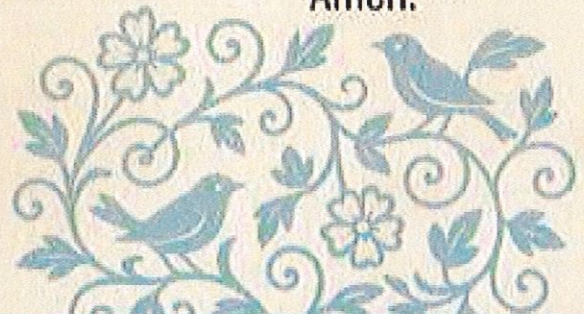
Care for Congregation: Glenda Vickers

Worship/Music: Mark Shue

Lord, in my work — whether at a
job, at home or in a service—

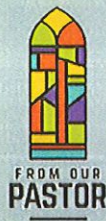
help me
to do it with
purpose and
peace.

Keep me from being
overwhelmed, and remind me
that my worth is not in what I
produce, but in
who I am in You.
Amen.



Nursing Home/Homebound

- **Junior Lyerly: 1435 Sides Road, Salisbury, NC 28146**
- **Sue Misenheimer: Trinity Oaks (275-D)**
728 Klumac Road, Salisbury, NC 28144
- **Judy Peeler: Trinity Oaks (D-4)**
820 Klumac Road, Salisbury NC 28144
- **Buddy Waller: 9325 Fisher Road, Rockwell, NC 28138**
- **Brenda H. Trexler: Trinity Oaks (266-D)**
728 Klumac Road, Salisbury, NC 28144
- **Lynn DeBerry: 3665 St. Peter's Church Road**
Salisbury, NC 28146
- **Jean Holshouser: Trinity Oaks (251-D)**
728 Klumac Road, Salisbury, NC 28144
- **Marcia Ritchie: 403 Garner Drive, Salisbury, NC 28146**



“Then Jesus told his disciples, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.’” (Matthew 16:24-25)

I have really been thinking about this text since service on August 30. Even though the focus of my sermon really didn’t address this part of the passage, it still has been nagging at me. So imagine my surprise when I opened my Center for Action and Contemplation devotion from Father Richard Rohr and this particular passage was the subject!

For the week of August 30 – September 5, the topic is about Becoming Disciples. On Tuesday September 1, the title was “The Cross of Self-Sufficiency.” The reflection was written by ELCA pastor and public theologian Nadia Bolz-Weber.

“In a homily on Matthew 16, public theologian Nadia Bolz-Weber highlights how Jesus’s teaching on “carrying your cross” was not intended to increase the suffering of those on the margins:

In our Gospel text for today, Jesus says that those who wish to follow him must deny themselves, and take up their cross, and those who wish to save their life must lose it. Not to put too fine a point on it, but these are just the kinds of messages that would never make Jesus an influencer today. He’d never get more than twelve followers these days with that kind of branding....

Maybe like you, I struggle with how this denying ourselves thing is good news. And not just because of how that verse about picking up your cross has been perverted into messages like deny your dignity and pick up your cross of continued domestic abuse and follow him. Bolz-Weber understands the cross as that which keeps us from relying on God and one another:

Recently I’ve been wondering: if, when Jesus says deny yourself and follow me, that maybe it’s not about ensuring his followers are doormats. Maybe he’s inviting us to deny the part of us that wants to see itself as separate from God and others.

Deny the self that believes that spirituality should be a suffering avoidance program.

Deny the self that always creates a list of demands.

Deny the self that is so turned in on itself that it cannot see much of anything beyond itself.

Deny the self that says really horrible things to you about you.

Deny the self that pretends you never need help....

Because in the end, one aspect of the whole death and resurrection thing that Jesus promised us, is the death of the false self.

But the death of the false self doesn't feel good. In fact, Richard Rohr once wrote that "holiness never feels like holiness, it just feels like you're dying."...

But no matter how painful, when the unhealthy ideas and habits and identities we rely on are taken away from us, it just makes space for that which is actually real and actually holy....

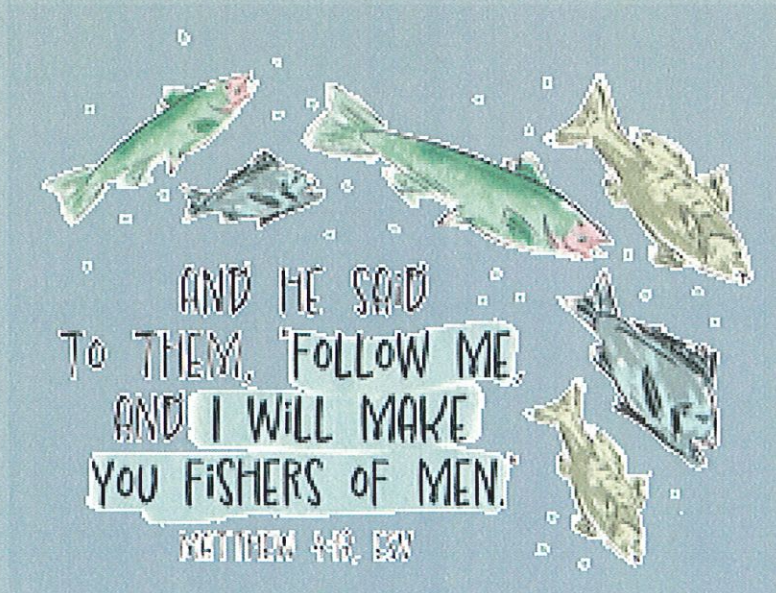
We offer no me-based solutions here. Then you know what we have to offer instead? Divine foolishness. The kind that says that if you want to save your life you must lose it and if you lose your life you will find it....

The cross is foolishness to those whose own solutions are still working for them, but to the weak and the cynical and the socially awkward and the exhausted ... to the divorced and the unemployed and the alcoholics ... in other words, to all who are in need of help and rest, Christ crucified (the foolishness of God) is life in a way that our own solutions can never be—in a way that more status, and more degrees and more financial security can never be."

Becoming disciples is difficult. To allow God to truly transform our hearts into our true selves that relies on and turns everything over to God means relinquishing control. And we don't like to give up control. Yet ultimately, if truth be told, our true self can only be discovered when we let go and let God!

Blessings!

Pastor Sue Lynn



STEWARDSHIP

September 6, 2026 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time “You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel...” - EZEKIEL 33:7

Many of us are generous with our gifts. However, many of us are not generous in proportion to the gifts we have been given. How often do we give at the minimum level required?

Remember, the Lord calls us to nurture and develop our gifts and to give back with increase. He calls us to be generous with all the gifts, especially the one that means the most to us.

September 13, 2026 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time “For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s.” – ROMANS 14:8

This is the essence of stewardship – everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. We aren’t “owners” of anything, we are merely “stewards” of the gifts that God has given us, especially our very own lives. Pray to God, daily, and ask Him how He is calling you to live the life that He intended for you.

September 20, 2026 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time “Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last”. - MATTHEW 20:16

You’ve heard the saying “it’s not where you start, but how you finish.” This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live “Godcentered” lives and not “self-centered” lives.

September 27, 2020 Stewardship Awareness Sunday in the Archdiocese of St. Louis 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time “Do nothing out of selfishness; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves...” Philippians 2:3

Pride and ego are hard things to control. We see how others act or dress and think we are superior to them. We idolize our own self-image. But, if we truly believe everything is a gift from God, we recognize all the people that God has put in our lives as gifts! We are grateful for how they enrich our lives. Pray every day for the people in your life: your family, your friends and those who make you angry.



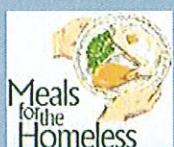
Ways you can SERVE



Volunteer at our Food Pantry. We need volunteers on Friday to scan and package, and on Saturdays to distribute., the second and third Saturday of each month.. Reach out to Debbie Hill if interested.



Meals on Wheels delivers meals to shut-ins. If you would like to be a driver and brighten someone's day reach out to George Lentz on how you can help.



Our church prepares and serves meals at Jeannie's kitchen every other month for the homeless. You can serve by reaching out to the group that is hosting to see what they need help with.



Our garden ministry is not just during the summer months. Reach out to Lorrie Olive if you would like to be involved in this ministry. We need people to water and gather daily.



We have new council assignments for committees. Please consider joining one of the committees and helping with our ministries. You can reach out to the council member assigned to the committee you would like to join.

Jan McCulloh: Youth

Dr. Alan King: Indoor Property

Frank King: Outdoor Property

David Najarian: Outreach

Glenda Vickers: Care of Congregation

Nathan Pressley: Christian Education

Ken Kluttz: Cemetery

Mark Shue: Music & Worship



- **Indoor/Outdoor Property: 1st Thursday of each month @ 6:30pm**
- **Christian Ed./Youth: 2nd Monday of each month @ 6:00pm**

you're in our PRAYERS

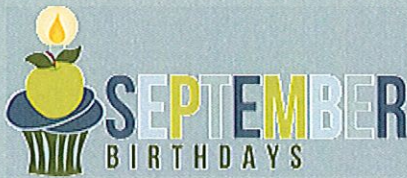
If there is anyone listed on our prayer list, that needs to be added or removed, please call the church office. Thank You! 704-279-5054

Disciples of St. Peter's:

Guy & Betty Puckett, Jim & Phyllis Cornelison, Jerry Sides, Ernie & Linda Cooper, Phil & Carol Boyette, Brenda H. Trexler, Thelma Barger, Judy Peeler, Lynn DeBerry, Jean Holshouser, Marcia Ritchie, Mary Miller, Buddy Waller, Bobby Lambirth, Frank King, Barbara King, and Sue Misenheimer.

Friends of St. Peter's Family:

Chris Eller (friend of Pat Kluttz), Jerry (Marcia Ritchie's brother), Annette McKinney, Susan and Ronnie Loflin, Lisa Roseman, Sheila Barringer, Emil Isbanioly (Leslie Puckett's nephew), Rachel (PSL's Niece), Kitty "Surachna" Eller (friend of Pat Kluttz), Bonnie Christian, Sugar Man Miller (Lucy & Mary Shue's brother), Maria & Spencer West, and Vanay Seamon.



3- Haylee Shuping
4- Joyce Cross
2- Alexcis Duren
7- Brittany Davis Mundy
8- Rhett Malek
9- Dena Najarian
10- Justin McDaniel, Brenda K. Trexler
11- Jane Evans
12- Zach Nesbitt
14- Mady Ames, Lillian Livengood
16- Jami Grandberry
18- Penny Canaday
20- Jennifer McDaniel
21- Alan Kader
22- Jim Cornelison
28- Caroline Cozart



7- M/M Ken Kluttz
8- M/M Garrett Cozart
10- M/M Mike Blowers
23- M/M Mark Shue



Emma Blackwell
Ethan DeBerry
Daniel Troutman
Collin Davis



Just as the son of man came not be served but to serve.

Matthew 20:28

Lector(s)

6- Ellen Troutman
13- Linda Lambirth
20- Joy King
27- Alan King

Assistant Minister

6- Ian Shue
13- Marty Puckett
20- Mark Shue
27- Sierra Pressley

Live stream: Nathan Pressley

Organist: Lucy Shue

Power Point: Brian White

Communion Preparers

1st Sunday: Crystal Nesbitt
2nd Sunday: Jan McCulloh
3rd Sunday: Jill Lyerly
4th Sunday: Linda Lambirth
5th Sunday: Eleanor Morgan

Council Members Assisting with Holy Communion

September: Glenda Vickers
October: Jan McCulloh & Ken Kluttz

Sound System

1st Sunday- Daryle Olive
2nd Sunday- Duncan White
3rd Sunday- William Barger
4th Sunday- Duncan White
5th Sunday- William Barger

Ushers

6- Glenda Vickers, George Lentz, William Barger & Larry Nesbitt
13- Glenda Vickers, David Najarian & Josh Hastings
20- Glenda Vickers & Bobby Lambirth
27- Glenda Vickers & David Najarian

Money Counters

1st Sunday: Ken & Joyce Kluttz
2nd Sunday: Linda Lambirth & Brenda Trexler
3rd Sunday: Linda Lambirth & Brenda Trexler
4th Sunday: Jamie Lyerly & Debbie Hill
5th Sunday: Jamie & Jill Lyerly



St. Peter's Giving & Attendance

Total given for Autust: \$ 15,868.39

Monthly Requirement: \$16,015.95

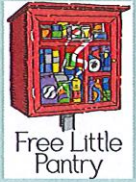
Deficit for August: \$237.56

Average Attendance for August: 54



Altar Flowers

If you would like to place flowers on the altar in memory or honor of someone, please contact Lorrie Olive or Dena Najarian to sign up.



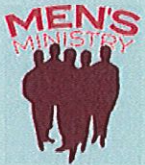
Blessing Box

Our little blessing box has been used frequently during the past two months. If you would like to contribute to this mission you can place items in the Narthex labeled "Blessing Box" or place them directly into the box. When placing in the box, make sure that the food is in closed containers and the door is latched when finished.



FoodPantry

For the month of August we served 26 neighbors, distributed 614 lbs. of food, and had 0 lbs. donated. The pantry is open the 2nd and 3rd Saturday of each month from 9-10:30 am. If you would like to help with this ministry, please contact Debbie Hill.



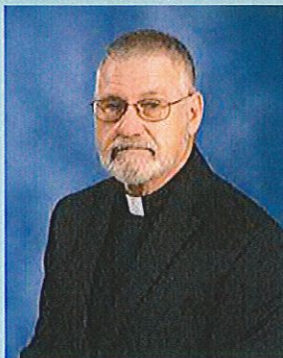
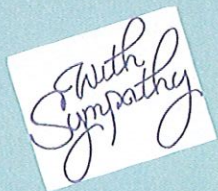
Lutheran Men

The Lutheran Men meet the second Sunday of each month at 8:00 am, downstairs in the fellowship hall. They meet for fellowship, discuss ways to meet the needs of the church and of course eat breakfast. All men are welcome to join!



Food Donation Schedule

- 1st Sunday: Pasta, pasta sauce
- 2nd Sunday: Soups and meal kits
- 3rd Sunday: Breakfast items, peanut butter and jelly
- 4th Sunday: Canned (dried) fruits and vegetables
- 5th Sunday: Buyer's Choice



Rev. Tommy Kale Beaver passed away peacefully at home
on Tuesday, August 25, 2026.



Dear Friends at St. Peter's,
Thank you so much
for the bookbags and
supplies for our Broncos.
It's such a blessing to
be able to give a student
a bookbag when they are
don't have one. They are
so relieved to not have
to worry. Thank you
for taking care of our kids.
ms plumlee

Thank you



Thank you to those who donated and Joy King, Kim Cozart, Charleene Childers, Pastor Sue Lynn White, Dena and Joseph Najarian for packing 25 bookbags for Morgan Elementary School.



Thank you to our preschool, Frank and Alan King for purchasing and putting up our new mailboxes. They look amazing!

Our New Pantry Sign



Phyllis Trexler

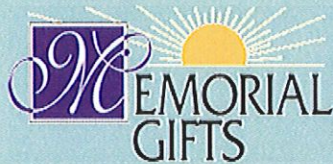
4/22/1948 - 6/30/2026

Bobby & Linda Lambirth

Short & Jill Lyerly

Alan & Joy King

Jim & Phyllis Cornelison



Stacy Fraley

4/11/1975 - 6/27/2026

Jim & Phyllis Cornelison

Dear Church Family:

Our preschool got off to a great start, our theme for this school year being, Under the Sea. We are blessed to have 67 students enrolled and a few more on a wait list. Please bless these little scholars as we learn about God, academics, and manners.

Open House



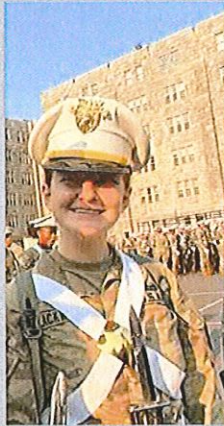
Preschool Sunday is September 27th



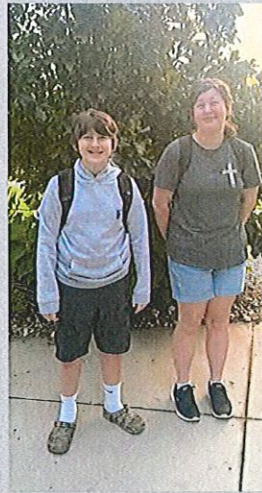
Your paragraph text



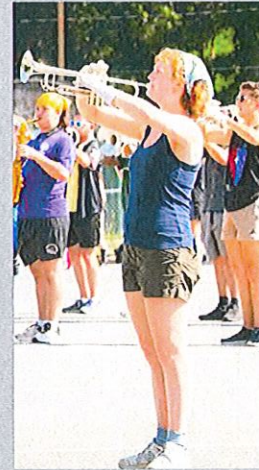
Maggie



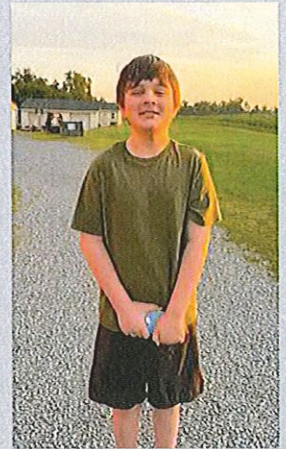
Emma



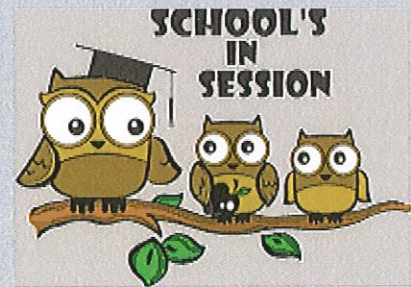
Marshall & Ella



Dixie



Raylan



Come Visit Our New Playground

Amazon Wish List Link:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/KVZNF13R5551?ref_=wl_share)

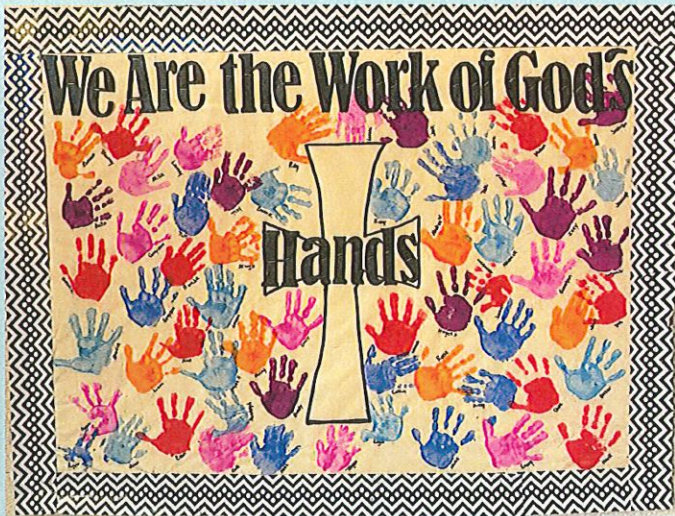
[KVZNF13R5551?ref_=wl_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/KVZNF13R5551?ref_=wl_share)



We are in need of the following items for our Prayer Ground. If you have any that are in barely used and would like to donate, please let the church office know. An Amazon wish list is in the process of being developed for this mission and other areas of need for our church.

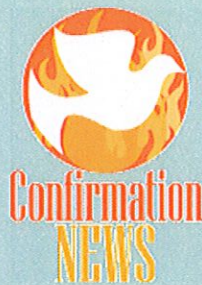
Needs: changing table

Matthew 19:14 - Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them."



Narthex Bulletin Board

The bulletin board in the Narthex is made up of all of our preschooler hands for Preschool Sunday (September 27th) and for our joint worship with St. James "God's Work, Our Hands" (August 13th).



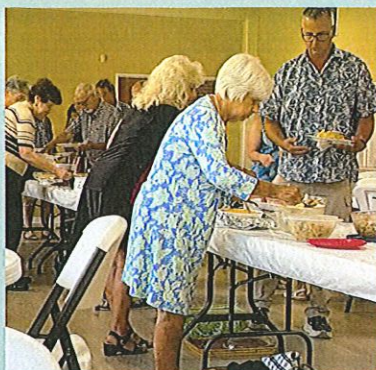
Confirmation has officially started! What a joy it was to present Bibles to our three students and then gather at St. James for a wonderful dinner. We worked as a group to write our expectations, talked about class time, and ended the evening with a fun Kahootz on the Protestant Reformation! (Kahootz is a phone based quiz game used in different educational settings)

Our focus for the 2026-2027 year will be Luther's Small Catechism. We will alternate gathering at the two churches once a month for a time of eating, fellowship, and class time learning about the foundations of the Lutheran faith tradition.

There are a couple of things the congregation can do to help out with Confirmation. First and foremost, please pray for the pastors, the adult teachers, and the students. Second, since St. Peter's only has 3 students, the parents will need assistance in providing the lunch meal Sunday September 13 at 12:00pm. If you can offer assistance, please let Pastor Sue Lynn know as soon as possible.

Here is to a wonderful Confirmation year!!





2026



SEPTEMBER 2026

make
kindness
the norm.

randomactsofkindness.org

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS FOUNDATION

SCIENCE SPARK: ACTS OF GENEROSITY LIGHT UP THE BRAIN'S REWARD PATHWAYS,
GIVING THE GIVER THE SAME JOY RESPONSE AS RECEIVING A GIFT.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Spread back-to-school cheer with sticky notes of encouragement hidden in lockers, desks, or library books.	Thank a teacher or mentor with a heartfelt note describing how they've inspired you.	Plant positivity by painting RAK rocks and scattering them around parks or trails.	Do a chore for someone else without being asked.	Start a generosity jar 10 and add a coin or note each time someone does something kind, then donate what you've collected together at month's end.	Donate gently-loved treasures like books or toys so someone else can enjoy them.	Hand out compliment cards that tell people what makes them special.
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Hold the door (and a smile) for others.	Share your skills by teaching someone how to bake, draw, or play a song.	Grow a kindness tree in your classroom or office—add a paper leaf for each kind act witnessed until your branches bloom with good deeds.	Leave a generous tip or a note of appreciation for a café or restaurant worker.	Create a kindness coupon book filled with favors like "help with dishes," "one free hug," or "movie night of your choice".	Pick up litter while you walk and watch your generosity ripple through the environment as beauty replaces clutter.	Give the gift of time by helping with errands, homework, or yard work.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Surprise a stranger by paying for their coffee, bus fare, or parking.	Pass along a favorite book with a note about why it moved you.	Volunteer together as a family, class, or team.	Host a "swap day" where friends trade clothes, toys, or tools.	Create a ripple map — draw a big circle with your name in the middle, then add circles for every person your kindness reaches.	Pack an extra snack for school or work and share it with someone who forgot theirs.	Support local artists or shops by leaving a kind review, sharing their work online, or writing a thank-you note.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Give the gift of listening by setting down your phone and being fully present.	Make kindness bookmarks with inspiring quotes and slip them into library books so future readers discover unexpected encouragement.	Adopt a spot in your neighborhood—refill a Little Free Pantry, water community plants, or tidy a park corner.	Celebrate kindness 30 stories by sharing moments of generosity from the month with your family or class—telling these stories keeps those joy pathways glowing bright.	1		

AUGUST							OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30	31	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Visit our site for even more kindness ideas: <https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/kindness-ideas>

© The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation



**God's Work
Our Hands**

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
15th Sunday Pentecost 9:00: Coffee Time/Sunday School 10:30: Worship	7	8	9	10	11	12 9-10:30: Food Pantry & Community Breakfast 9:00-1:00: Community Fair
16th Sunday Pentecost God's Work, Our Hands 8:00: Council 9:00: Sunday School w/ St. James @ St. Peter's (Sanctuary) 10:30: Community Worship w/ St. James @ St. Peter's. 12:00: Confirmation Class Happy Grandparent's Day!	14 Youth/Christian Ed. 6:00	15	16	17	18	19 9-10:30: Food Pantry
17th Sunday Pentecost 8:00: Lutheran Men 9:00: Coffee Time/Sunday School 10:30: Worship with PSL	21	22 Jeannie's Kitchen	23	24	25	26
18th Sunday Pentecost Preschool Sunday 9:00: Coffee Time/Sunday School 10:30: Worship with PSL Fellowship Meal Following Service	28	29	30			