

**October 2009**

**“FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK”**

**Church News**

**Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the Story!**

*Then he [Jesus] took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.” (Mark 9:36-37 )*

It has finally started! On Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, we officially began the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Christ Lutheran Church. This date was chosen for the beginning of the celebration because it was on September 21, 1959, that ground was broken for the construction of the first phase of our building.

The Home Mission Board of the Evangelical Lutheran Church initially invested \$109,266 in this site (\$34,084 for the eleven and one-half acres of land, \$18,000 for the existing farmhouse, and \$57,182 in construction cost for the new building). Three times since then (1965, 1981, and 2001) the shovel has gone into the ground and several hundred thousand more dollars have been paid out for building expansions.

I find this information very interesting, but I also know that the church is not primarily concerned about dates, buildings and money. As church, we are concerned about people and their/our relationship with God. Through the ministry of this congregation, 1,090 people have been baptized. Hundreds of others have grown in faith, worshiped God, and served other people because of the existence of Christ Lutheran Church. These are the stories I am most interested in learning and sharing this year.

*Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the Story!* is the theme for our anniversary celebration. These words are taken from the fifth verse of the hymn “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!” (#308 in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*). How fitting that the theme of our celebration is taken from a 412-year-old work that is used as a

Christmas/Epiphany hymn. This hymn and these seasons remind us that in Jesus, God’s love comes to us and to the whole world.

That understanding of God’s love has always been central to the ministry of this congregation. The large wall plaque in the gathering area says it well, continually reminding us and serving as an unofficial motto of the congregation: “Unconditional love given here.”

In real life situations such love is challenged, sometimes by theological disagreements and sometimes by personality conflicts. While we find our history amazing, we are aware that not everyone who has come through our doors has found a home here. Others who were once at home here have moved on to other congregations. In the midst of such commonplace movement, Christ Lutheran Church has continued without ever having faced a “congregation-splitting” moment.

I give thanks for that reality of our shared history. Not every congregation can make such a claim. Retired pastor Roger Lovette remembers once visiting the Church of the Holy Rude in Stirling, Scotland. (Holy Rude was a medieval term for the Cross of Christ’s crucifixion.) The present building was constructed in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Mary Queen of Scots was crowned there in 1543. Prince Henry was baptized in there in 1594. James VI was crowned king in that same room.

Pastor Lovette recalls standing in the old sanctuary when the guide said, “Do you see the brick line there?” The guide pointed to a line from floor to ceiling right down the middle sides of the church. “This was one of our most painful stories. During the turbulent 17<sup>th</sup> century when there were so many religious and political troubles, the congregation was split into factions. An extreme and bigoted pastor refused to accept his more modest colleague. After trying to resolve the conflict for a long time, the town council finally solved the problem by building a wall across the church. One church became two separate churches. Starting in 1656 the two groups of people worshiped back-to-back, with a wall separating them. One altar was at one end of the church, and a second altar at the other end. In 1936 the wall was removed and the church was reunited. But for 280 years they worshiped in a divided manner.”

Can you imagine that! In the midst of challenges faced, such a thing has never happened here at Christ Lutheran Church. I certainly pray it never does. Unconditional love is given here. God graciously welcomes all of us to this place, and we continue to welcome anyone and everyone in Jesus' name. It is a history worth remembering and continuing. Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the Story!

See you in worship,

*Pastor Bart Beebe*

## **UPDATES FROM BONNIE**

### **Time and Ability**

We dedicated our Time and Ability in worship on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. Newly updated volunteer lists for each ministry category have been distributed. (Boards and Committees, you will find your lists in your mailboxes. Other Committee Chairs and Program Coordinators should see me if they have not received theirs.) May we now dedicate ourselves to utilizing these gifts that have been so graciously offered in service to God and neighbor. May we give these disciples their marching orders, their commission to serve so that we demonstrate to them how vitally important and necessary their gifts are to further the mission and ministry of CLC. May we be intentional and diligent in being good ministry coordinators one to another so that no one feels left out or unappreciated. May we thank them for their willingness to be God's hands and feet in the world!

### **Inquirer Class Continues throughout October!**

Utilizing The Lutheran Handbook as "an indispensable companion for anyone trying to become a well-informed church goer", plus the accompanying workbook and DVD, we continue our discussion of

such topics as the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion and the Reformation.

Join us as you are able to learn about the fundamentals of Lutheranism. Sessions begin at 7PM. We will continue meeting throughout the Wednesdays in October, ending November 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Devotional**

The Devotional will soon be going to press! 625 regular print and 40 large print editions will be published. The finished booklets will be delivered to us by the first part of October, in time for Dedication Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. The booklets will then be distributed throughout the month of November. Special thanks to Rev. Sandy Bowen and Barbara Klein, who spent countless hours editing and formatting, Ron Morelli for assisting with .pdf conversion, Mike Algie for his help getting our many publishing questions answered and the generosity of the Church Council and Endowment Committee for funding publication expenses. Each family will receive one complimentary copy. Additional copies will be sold for \$5. In this way, we hope to recoup over half of the publication cost, thereby being good stewards of our financial resources. Thanks be to God for providing for our needs every step of the way!

### **Profile of Service**

Lisa Stoen, Junior Choir Director

This month's profile in service is focused on staff member - Lisa Stoen, Junior Choir Director. Lisa has been a member of the Christ Lutheran Church family for thirty years and began as the Teen Choir accompanist in September of 1982. In September of 1984, she began as the Teen Choir Director and then took on directing the Junior Choir in September of 1988.

Lisa has been on the Board of Worship, a substitute organist, previously an alto in Senior Choir and currently, co-Music Coordinator and participates in HIMpromptu.

Outside of CLC, Lisa has been a school math tutor, a sales associate, co-owner of ice cream parlor and a data analyst. She

has two sons, Christopher and Matthew, and four grandchildren. Lisa enjoys golf, Scrabble and crocheting. When asked, "Why do you STILL direct the Junior Choir?", Lisa replied she knew she had been given a gift of doing something she loved. The gift was the opportunity to teach children through her love of music. That is a great combination.

Lisa, you are a treasure for Christ Lutheran Church. We thank you for your dedicated presence here with us.

## *People, Praises, Programs,*

### ***A Monthly Update from Your Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministries***

*"You show me the path of life. In your presence there  
is fullness of joy," Psalms 16:11*

Kids Living in Christ's Kingdom, **K.L.I.C.K.**, kicked off our THIRD year of mid-week Bible study on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. The above verse is our unit verse for the year and is the premise of our yearly study. *The Joy Connection* is our focus for the year and is all about helping elementary school kids experience and share the joy of having a relationship with God. Kids easily connect to the feeling of being happy or joyful. This year's study will help them identify the difference between being happy about circumstances and things of the world and the joy they can experience in trusting, loving and praising God. Our first lesson shares that God is our true source of joy. The remaining lessons will explore David's life and challenge kids to find joy in how God made them; facing trials in life, and being content with that joy alone. We began our first service project for the year-making prayer pillows for our shut ins. These beautiful fleece pillows were tied with love and stuffed, not

only will fiber fill, but with hand written prayers of love, hope, peace and health.

We ALL had fun and found joy doing something for others. All kindergartners through 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join us the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

**Confirmation** studies began this year on Thursday September 10<sup>th</sup>. The Sacrament of Holy Communion and the Ten Commandments are the focus for the year. Two new catechism guides, Jolie Briskey and Lisa Michels join us this year leading our 6<sup>th</sup> graders. We are grateful for their involvement in this ministry. The 2009-2010 catechism year brings a new confirmation requirement for our kids. "Sunday Sevens" are worship worksheets which ask kids to observe and reflect on various aspects of worship and then share those observations and reflections in writing. They are intended to be fun, but also intended to help our kids become more familiar with "why we do, what we do" in worship. Feel free to check them out! The Fall Confirmation Retreat was September 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> at Michigan Christian Youth Camp in Attica, MI. We focused on Martin Luther and the Reformation. We participated in this retreat with several other churches in our cluster. It was a great weekend! Mark your calendars for Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup> ~ Reformation Sunday ~ when our catechism youth will lead worship at the 9:30 am service.

Jesus Our Leader and Teacher, **J.O.L.T** began our regular bible studies and meetings on Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to use to our *Soul Matters for Teens* text as a framework for our time together. All 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to join us the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month at 11:00 am. Our high school kids are an awesome group of people and I have grown to LOVE our Sunday morning discussions. Lots of plans are underway for this group including December's Michigan Gathering in Lansing as well as Work Camp 2010 next summer. It seems far off, but as we all know time flies! If you or your high school student is interested in either, please make sure to let me know. Please mark your calendars for Sunday October 11<sup>th</sup> when the 2009 ELCA Youth Gathering attendees from our church will share our experience with the congregation. The Service of Sharing will take place at the 9:30 am worship. Of course we will be sharing photos, but this is secondary to the lessons, message and stories we will be offering to our congregation.

We have felt incredible support in our journey and hope this worship service will give God great glory as we express our gratitude to Him and you.

As always I ask that each of you prays daily for our young people... This month, please pray that all parents are blessed with patience and wisdom.

- Beth Paulo

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

**Next Meeting:**  
**Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm**

***Please come and join us! We welcome new ideas and new hands. All are welcome to attend.***



**Clintonaire Bingo** - Make Monday your night to set some time aside to help the residents of

Clintonaire fill the long hours. The residents look forward to every bingo evening, which makes you, the volunteer, very important. Please remember to make a Monday night at Clintonaire part of your plans. We couldn't do it without YOU! Please contact Mona Palmer at 586-286-8631 if you would like to participate.

### ***Upcoming Bingo Dates:***

October 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
November 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>

**October is Birthright Month** - Throughout October we will be collecting infant to 24-month size clothing, diaper bags, and maternity clothes for Birthright. Located in Utica, Birthright assists unwed mothers and needy mothers. All clients are interviewed to assess their needs before being assisted. Generally, we collect new items. Very gently used items in excellent condition may also be contributed.

**Food Pantry** - Please check the announcements each Sunday for the latest needs update. Donations of any items will be gratefully received. Please place your contributions by the pantry door next to the collection bins. NEW: See the Good Shepherd article about the Paper Pantry.

**Meals for the Homeless Report** - We would like to acknowledge the following people for their help serving the dinner on July 19: Mona & Dan Palmer, Nancy & Marv Kuula, Mike & Sharon Algie, Pastor Beebe, Charlene Kane, Martha Maxwell, Helga Anderson, and Dan & Eleanor Stolzenfeld. Cookies were baked by Doris Miller, Mona Palmer, Lillian Hanson, Martha Maxwell, Sharon Algie, Viki Handlon, and Mary Ward. Of course, Cathy Baumgartner was the very able organizer of the event.

**Habitat Dedication** - On Saturday, October 3, at 11 a.m. there will be a dedication ceremony at the Habitat homes. All are welcome to attend, meet the families, and see the homes that were recently completed. The homes are north of downtown Mount Clemens...Northbound Gratiot to Joy Blvd...east to Colchester St.

**Teddy Bear Ministry** - Don't forget that we have



bears available for those in need of comfort and cheering up. Look around the narthex and

to find the perfect companion for someone who needs a hug! Contributions to this ministry are always welcome too.



**Prayer Shawls** - HELP WANTED! PASS ON PRAYERS. TAKE A SHAWL TO SOMEONE IN NEED. Do you know someone to whom you can

offer the love and comfort of being wrapped in the care and prayers that these shawls represent? The shawls are located in the Coffee Corner below the mailboxes. Please sign the yellow spiral notebook when taking a shawl. Due to our current supply, those making shawls are asked to refrain from making more until further notice.

**CROP Walk** - CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, October 4 beginning at 1:30 pm. The walkers will meet at United Methodist Church, 8650 Canal Road, then walk to Riverland Park, to Dodge Park, and back. Cathy Baumgartner will have registration materials at church for those who want to walk. If you cannot walk that day, be sure to look for a walker to sponsor. Each church has also been asked to contribute supplies. Sign up on the board in the narthex to provide bottled water, apples, or oranges for the walkers. Why not gather together a group of family, friends, or neighbors and make a day of it! For more information, call Cathy Baumgartner @ 586.781.0502.

**Good Shepherd Coalition News** - After some difficult times following the loss of its former director, the Good Shepherd Coalition has been reorganized under the capable leadership of Karen Rothenhauser (daughter of Barb Anderson).

They anticipate a great increase in the number of people needing assistance in the coming months. Between July and December, as many as 10,000 new people/families will be coming off of unemployment extensions without incomes. The Good Shepherd Coalition is one of the agencies that will need our help to help others. It is through the Coalition that we receive the names of families to help at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

**Paper Pantry** is a new project of the Good Shepherd Coalition to provide essentials like toilet paper, paper towels, shampoo and other essentials (full size), etc. as these items cannot be purchased with the Bridge Card that is to be used only for food. We will be collecting these items as part of our Thanksgiving drive and also on an ongoing basis for the Paper Pantry. Place your contributions by the collection bins. Items they would like to have available for clients include:

- |                        |                   |                |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Shampoo                | Toothpaste        | Napkins        |
| Conditioner            | Toothbrush        | Paper Towels   |
| Dish soap              | Cleaning Supplies | Garbage Bags   |
| Deodorant              | Shaving Razors    | Toilet Paper   |
| Laundry Supplies       | Sandwich Bags     | Facial Tissues |
| Feminine Products      | Shaving Cream     | Bath Soap      |
| Gallon Storage Bags    |                   |                |
| Kitchen sponges/cloths |                   |                |

**Costume Jewelry Fund Raiser** - The Good Shepherd Coalition will also be continuing their "Gently Used Jewelry Sales" fund raisers which are held at various locations (church rummage sales, citywide garage sales, etc.). These events help them raise needed funds for their programs. If you have costume jewelry in good condition, you can donate it by placing it in the collection bin at church.

**Visits to Our Homebound Members** - Would you like to help provide home-baked treats or make a visit to someone and deliver the items? We plan to do so in October, at Christmas, at Easter, and in July. If you would like to be a part, call Eleanor Stolzenfeld @ 586.739.4906.

### **November Giving Opportunities**

- ❖ Thanksgiving Food Drive. Bags with suggested items will be available beginning November 1. Bags will be brought up to the altar with our offerings on November 22.
- ❖ Food baskets will be assembled on the morning of Tuesday, November 24. We are looking of volunteers to deliver the food baskets that afternoon.

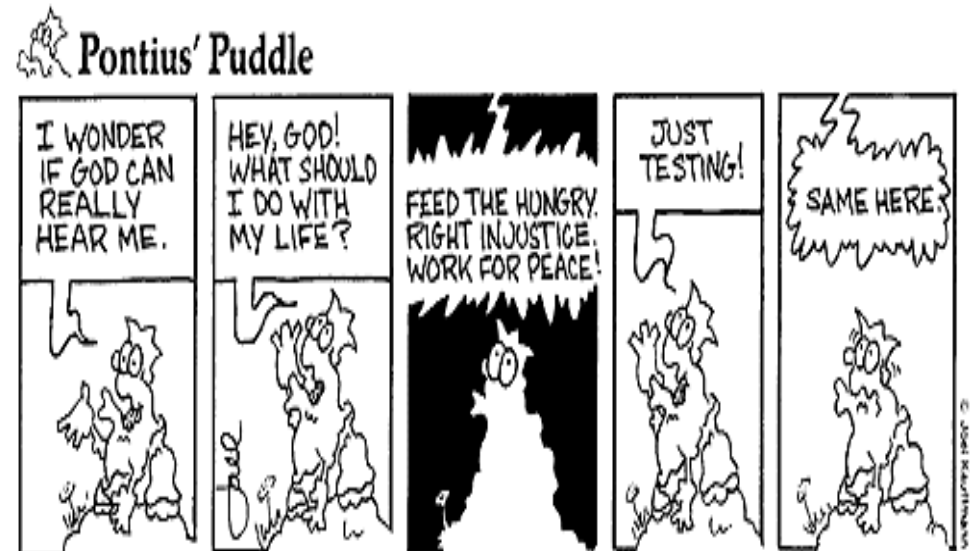
### **December Events**

- ❖ December 19 - Annual Cookie Walk 9 am - Noon. Dust off those cookie sheets and sort through your favorite recipes!
- ❖ December - Adopt-A-Family Giving Tree for Christmas. We will be providing for up to 7 families.

### **Odds and Ends**

- ❖ Keep saving your Campbell soup labels! Did you know that many products which may not say “Campbell’s” on the label are part of this program? It has been a long time since we have received any labels bearing these other names: Franco-American, Pepperidge Farm, Spaghettios, Swanson, and Prego. Look for the “Labels for Education” notice. Also, remember it is the UPC code that is required. If that is cut in half, we cannot use that label. Try splitting the label up the front. Many products now have a dotted line surrounding the UPC and “Labels for Education”. That is the part we need. You do not have to save or bring in the entire label. Just trim at the dotted line. If there is none, save the UPC and adjacent information that identifies the product brand

- ❖ Don’t forget to bring in your aluminum can tabs, eyeglasses and hearing aids.
- ❖ Inkjet printer cartridges are being collected for recycling. As more information is available, we will let you know exactly which brands we can collect. Place them in the bin at the collection center.



## **SLICK!**

### **Seniors Living in Christ's Kingdom!**

JUBILATION, EXALTATION—TELL THE STORY!  
50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

On September 20, 2009, Christ Lutheran Church kicked off their 14-month celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with special music and information on upcoming events in celebration of this anniversary.

A special commemorative Christmas ornament will go on sale at this time and will be sold between services from now until Christmas.

Many special events have been planned, some of which follow, and you will want to mark your calendars:

October 18, 2009	Guest Preacher: Rev. Ted Peters
November 22, 2009	Guest Preacher: Rev. Matt Kamprath
April 25, 2010	Guest Preacher: Rev. Paula Maeder Connor
July 17, 2010	Homecoming Picnic
July 18, 2010	Guest Preacher: Rev. David Boone
September 26, 2010	Guest Preacher: Rev. Tom Kamprath
October 17, 2010	Guest Preacher: Rev. Steve Reshan
November 21, 2010	Festival Anniversary Worship Services Banquet at Sterling Inn

We are still looking for names and addresses of former members and for those children who were raised in this congregation and have moved away. Eleanor Stolzenfeld is collecting these.

Please consider volunteering to help with our celebrations!

## **ALTAR DUTY**

October 4<sup>th</sup>

October 11<sup>th</sup>

October 18<sup>th</sup>

October 25<sup>th</sup>

## **ACOLYTES**

October 4<sup>th</sup> Chelsey Kangas Madeline Kraemer

October 11<sup>th</sup> Samantha Helzer Austin Kelly

October 18<sup>th</sup> Tyler Hudgens Austin Cain

October 25<sup>th</sup> Amanda Meunier Trent Schwenkel

## **LAY ASSISTANTS**

October 4<sup>th</sup>

8:00 Dave Anderson  
9:30 CLC Youth  
11:00 Mike Algie

October 11<sup>th</sup>

8:00 Jan Carter  
9:30 Kim Gundy Karen VanHook  
11:00 Julianne Arnold

October 18<sup>th</sup>

8:00 George Chapman  
9:30 Ciara Bowlsby Beth Paulo  
11:00 Lisa Stoen

October 25<sup>th</sup>

8:00 Pam Harris  
9:30 Lisa Michels Gil Stanow  
11:00 Terry Horne

## **GREETERS**

October 4<sup>th</sup>

8:00 VOLUNTEER NEEDED  
9:30 Charles Doggett  
11:00 VOLUNTEER NEEDED

October 11<sup>th</sup>

8:00 Carole & Dick Maki  
9:30 Helga Anderson  
11:00 Jim & Trudy Senopole

October 18<sup>th</sup>

8:00 Russ Schlaufman  
9:30 Ginny French  
11:00 Diane McIntyre

October 25<sup>th</sup>

8:00 Chuck Pllum & Carmela LaRosa  
9:30 Kim McCollum & Geoff Weirs  
11:00 Jim & Judy Carney

If you'd like to sign up for a "VOLUNTEER NEEDED" date,  
please contact Nancy Stonehouse @ 586.412.7194

## **COFFEE CORNER HOSTS - PLEASE SIGN UP!**

If you have donated your time & ability to host Sundays Coffee Corner, please sign up for your choice of dates & service times you would like. There is a board in the Narthex that runs from **October through May!**

## **CHILI COOK-OFF**

Coming in October CLC will be hosting a chili cook-off. There will be prizes, special celebrity judges and antacid available. Check your Sunday bulletin for further details.

## **ACCEPTING QUOTES FROM PAINTERS**

Christ Lutheran is currently accepting bids from **experienced & qualified** painters for the Church Offices. References a plus. Please contact Rick Nank from Property Management a @ 586.286.3369 or Nancy Ellis in the Church Office @ 586.731.1113 if you or someone you know would be interested.

## **CLC's FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

*(through August 2009)*

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Income YTD	\$222,511	\$222,224
Expenses YTD	\$249,692	\$268,211
Gain/Loss YTD	(\$27,181)	(\$45,987)

***We extend the sympathies of the congregation to:***

Al & Marilyn Soules on the August 15<sup>th</sup> death of their son, Kenneth Soules.

And to Dave & Sue Frank and family on the August 22<sup>nd</sup> death of Sue's mom, Arlene Wirsing.

*"Rest Eternal, grant them Lord;  
and let Light Perpetual shine upon them."*

## **PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS...**

*June Bartz, Kay Doggett, Barb Kelly,  
Emma Kochajda, Marguerite St. Amour,  
Lelah Walker, Marge White, and Tilly Zielepuza.*

Please contact the Church Office if you need an address!  
586.731.1113 or [clcsterling@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clcsterling@sbcglobal.net)

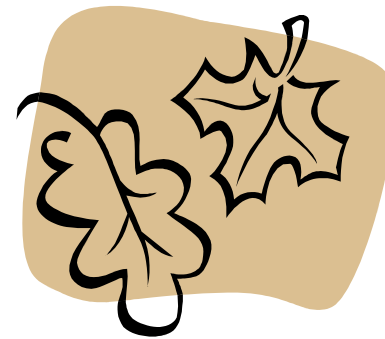
**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...**



Barb Anderson, David Anderson,  
Bob Amesse, Barb Angell, Monica Arnold,  
Audrey Bakst, Maryann Barnes,

Ray Baumgartner, Sam Baumgartner, Arlene Baxter,  
Mary Beltz, James Benard, Brooke Biel, Genevieve Black,  
Aileen Bonior, Bekah Cain, Gabe Cain, Michelle Cain,  
Colin Cates, Leon Chamberlain, Karen Cole, Noah Costa,  
Curt Craven, Ray & Joyce David, Charles Doggett,  
Lucille Draper, Cassie Esselink, Kelsey Garber,  
Tom Grunewald, Larry Hadley, Johnny Hall, Tom Handlon,  
Jonathon Hannah, Adrian Harris, Luella Hayes, Shari Heilig,  
Joyce Hendricks, Trenton Higgins, Bob Himes,  
Ann Hitzelburger, Lisa Hoekstra, Tyler Hood, Bob Jones,  
John Kamon, Judy Kamon, Joe Kaydos, Michael Kirkpatrick,  
Dick Kopchick, Barbara Kraemer, Linda LaForest,  
Nancy Laskowski, Tony, Carol & T.J. Lobstein,  
Rebecca Locke, Carole Maki, Richard Maki, Victoria Malugin  
with Justin & Noel, Richard May, Tressa Meyer,  
Melanie Meunier, Don Moats, Rachelle Nelette, Linda Noble,  
Carol Nowaczyk, Jim Padden, Earl Parmalee, Sofia Paulo,  
Kathy Pollitt, Ben Poselli, Shirley Powell, Mark Pruehs,  
Marion Puffpaff, Kathy Queen, Angelina Russo,  
Mark Schwenkel, Ronald Shaffer, Skylar Sokolowski,

Mary Spicuzza, June Stanow, Todd Stephen, Karla Stern,  
Jim Stinson, Mary Sunday, Lucas Vincent,  
Nick Zoccola and Jean Zoccola.



*October's poplars are flaming  
torches lighting the way to winter.*