

*a cup of cool water for your journey.*

**Feed hungry families  
with food from  
your own garden!**

This September, Minnesota FoodShare is launching a Harvest Campaign to increase the amount of healthy, fresh produce at local food shelves. You can help! Bring your donations of vegetables grown at home to church on Sundays in September (7, 14, 21, 28) and place them by the red NEAR wagons in the narthex or chapel foyer. The produce will be taken to NEAR food shelf.

For more info: contact Courtney Zaato at 612-276-1556 or czaato@gmcc.org

**Choir Rehearsals**

**Elim Adult Choir and the Ringtones Handbell Choir** rehearse Wednesdays, starting on Wed, Sept 3. The Ringtones rehearse at 6:15-7:00, and the Elim Choir rehearses at 7:15-8:30. We are always happy to have new people join us. One of the most exciting things about our choir is the fact that we have people of all ages, high-school through retirement. The Elim Choir sings on the first, third, and fourth Sundays of the month, and the Ringtones ring on the second Sunday of each month. Questions? Contact Dick Balkus at (763) 502-6974.

**Children's Choir** rehearses Sundays starting Sept 14 at 9:00am. It's for ages 5-10. Contact Carrie Enstad at 763-971-7872.

**God's Work,  
Our Hands  
Service Day**

Sat, Sept 6 at 9:30am  
Picnic at noon

Gather with Wildfire churches for an annual day of service. We will work at the Second Harvest hunger relief organization (6325 Sandburg Rd #1700, Golden Valley) from 9:30-11:30am, and then come to Northwoods Park (7600 107th Ave, Brooklyn Park) for a picnic at noon. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

We need 6 volunteers to help with the picnic. Contact Judy Landmark at (763) 546-7369.

**Blessing of the  
Backpacks**

Sun, Sept 7 at 9:30am

Students of all ages, bring your backpacks to the 9:30am Family Worship on Sept 7. During worship, the pastors will ask all students beginning another school year to come to the front of the church with their backpacks for a short blessing and prayer.

**Global Church  
Sunday &  
International Day  
of Peace**

Sun, Sept 21

We will celebrate at 9:30 worship.



Elim volunteers greet our missionary, Dr. Johnson, on Aug 20.

**Veterans Luncheon | Mon, Sept 15 at 11am**

Merrill Burgstahler, a soldier in the 6th Armored Division under General George Patton, will speak about his participation in the liberation of Buchenwald in 1945. It was the first large prison camp liberated, with 48,000 prisoners including 900 young Jewish children. Please come and hear his experiences. A lunch follows for \$4.

How to join: All veterans and their spouses and guests are welcome. RSVP to Libby at (763) 537-8481.

# PASTOR'S CORNER

*Come gather 'round people ,  
wherever you roam  
And admit that the waters  
Around you have grown  
And accept it that soon  
You'll be drenched to the bone  
If your time to you is worth savin'  
Then you better start swimmin'  
Or you'll sink like a stone  
For the times they are a-changin'.  
- Bob Dylan*

Another summer has passed, and another program year is upon us. With this new fall comes yet more change to Elim! I encourage you to read this newsletter closely and commit yourselves to participate in the continuing evolution of Elim, God's Oasis, into a new day.

The Worship Board has recommended, and the Council has concurred, that Elim should move to one worship service, at 9:30, this year. While many congregations have moved from several worship services to one in the past few years

because of lower attendance; we are consolidating our worship times to position Elim for further growth and partnership both inside and outside our walls.

First, we are working on relaunching our Sunday Morning Adult Education offerings with input from the University of Minnesota, Augsburg College and other local presenters. Stay tuned for news on that front.

Second, we have had a growing and deepening relationship with the members and leaders of the Lao Evangelical Lutheran Church. Pastor Thiem Baccam, myself and several lay members of both congregations have been designing a combined worship service for both our own communities but, more importantly, for outreach to our neighborhood and beyond. We would like to begin that worship service at the 11 o'clock hour in the future and combining Elim's worship to 9:30 helps us in that

regard. If you are interested in contributing to a new outreach

worship service, let me know!

We will also see a new format for Wednesday Night Live as we welcome members of Cross of Glory Lutheran Church in Brooklyn Park to Elim. In this newsletter you will see a schedule for the evenings.

These are for YOU and for your children and grandchildren. We are excited for the strengthening of our congregation through partnerships and an expanded awareness of how God is at work in Robbinsdale and beyond.

Thank you, as always, for your continuing prayer and support of the mission and ministry of Elim. I look forward to another wonderful year of service, learning and worship together.

God bless you,



Pastor Chris Enstad



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*We are excited for the strengthening of our congregation through partnerships and an expanded awareness of how God is at work in Robbinsdale and beyond.*

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## **Organ Update**

by Dick Balkus, Organist

We are about halfway through the organ project. All of the pipes have been taken out of the swell chamber, located behind the pipes on the pulpit side of the Sanctuary. The "chest" was removed from the chamber and is being stored on the roof. When the new chest is built and delivered, it will be hoisted up to the roof by a crane and the old chest will then be removed. While we are waiting for the new chest,

the walls of the chamber will be insulated, replastered, and repainted, as there is some damage from an earlier water leak. Once the chest is delivered and in place, the pipes can be put onto the new chest. Everything should be completed around Thanksgiving. I certainly will be thankful to have the organ back in full working condition.

The pipes in the swell chamber are the trumpets and softer sounds of the organ. Those are the sounds

we don't hear right now. The louder pipes on the pulpit side are working fine, and the very soft pipes on the lectern side of the sanctuary are working fine. So while it seems there is no difference in the sound of the organ, in actuality, about one-third of the organ is missing.

If you have any questions about the process or would like to see what's going on, talk to me after morning worship and I'll be happy to take you on a guided tour or answer anything I can.

# FAITH, FRIENDS, & FAMILY

## **Sunday School returns Sept 14!**

Sunday School at Elim will begin on **September 14 at 9:30:** Sunday School is for children that are 3 years old (as of Sept. 1) through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Please register your child before September 7, so we can plan for teachers and materials.

You can register online ([www.elim-robbinsdale.org/youth](http://www.elim-robbinsdale.org/youth)), get a registration form at the Sunday School office, or call the church office at 763-537-8481.

We still need one co-teacher for Kindergarten. Please consider this important job! We also need to have names of people who would be willing to sub for teachers that are gone.



## **Baptism Orientation**

**Tues Sept 9 | 6:30 pm**

Pastor Marcia leads a monthly class to talk about baptism and answer questions you might have.

If you are considering a baptism for a child or as an adult, please register by contacting the church office at (763) 537-8481 or [office@elim-robbinsdale.org](mailto:office@elim-robbinsdale.org).

## **Wednesday Night Live Returns September 10!**

Every Wednesday Night, join us for:

5:00-6:00 **Dinner** (free will offering) and open gym

6:00-7:00 **Education hour:**

Kids' ROCK: fun and learning for grades K-6

Confirmation: for grades 7-8

Class with Pastor Mark from Cross of Glory: for grades 9-12

Adult Education

*Kids' ROCK and Adult Education will be following The Story, a curriculum that guides participants through the Bible over the course of a year. Weekly lessons are targeted to different age groups but cover the same material, so adults and kids can talk about Christianity and the Bible outside of class and share their common ground.*

6:15 **Elim Ringtones rehearsal**

6:15 **Card making** (Sept 17)

7:00-8:00 **FOUR Youth Group:** games and fun for grades 7-12

7:15 p.m. **Elim Choir rehearsal**

## **Make It Possible**

Help prepare a meal, supervise kids, or assist with cleanup. Parents, grandparents, adults of all kinds are invited to get to know the youth of Elim by helping out on Wednesday nights. Contact Ellyn Roth-Unzicker at (763) 537-8481 or [egroth@elim-robbinsdale.org](mailto:egroth@elim-robbinsdale.org).

## **MEA Getaway at Camp Castaway**

**October 16-19 | for grades 9-12**

This retreat invites kids to consider a relationship with Christ, and encourages and inspires them to deepen that relationship. Spend time in prayer. Spend time in a hot tub. Spend time with new and old friends. Spend time eating the best camp food you will ever experience. Spend time discussing faith and life. Just come and spend time. See all the details at [www.meagetaway.com](http://www.meagetaway.com).

Cost is \$175. Attendance is required for all students being confirmed this year. Contact Pastor Marcia with questions or to get a sign-up form at 763-537-8481 or [mrosa@elim-robbinsdale.org](mailto:mrosa@elim-robbinsdale.org).



## **MEA Fundraiser**

We will be holding a fundraiser to help our youth with the fees to attend MEA Getaway. Watch for details in the weekly bulletins and e-newsletter.

# Septemb

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
<p>Wednesday Night Live: 5:00-6:00 p.m. Dinner and open gym 6:00-7:00 Kids' Rock grades K-6 6:00-7:00 Confirmation grades 7-8 6:15 p.m. Elim Ringtones rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Card making (Sept 17) 7:00-8:00 Games &amp; fun grades 7-12 7:15 p.m. Elim Choir rehearsal</p>	<p><b>1 Labor Day</b> Office closed</p>	<p><b>2</b> 12:30pm Altar Guild meeting 4:30pm Baton Twirlers—Gym 5:30pm Women's AA—Fireside Room 7:30pm AA—Fireside Room</p>	<p><b>3</b> 6pm 6:15 7:15</p>
<p><b>7 Rally Sunday</b> 8:30-11am Men's Breakfast—Gym 9:30am Worship with Communion 11am Lao ELC —Gym 11am Greater All Nations—Reception Room 11am Spiritual Church of God —Chapel 1pm Glory &amp; Hope Church—Chapel</p>	<p><b>8</b> 7:30am Monday Sanctuary Team 4:30pm Baton Twirlers—Gym 5:30pm Robbinsdale Meet &amp; Greet —Downdown Robbinsdale 7pm Cub Scouts—Parlor 7pm Boy Scouts—Gym</p>	<p><b>9</b> 9:45am E Team—Reception Room 4pm Book Club—Conference Rm 4:30pm Baton Twirlers—Gym 5:30pm Women's AA—Fireside Room 6pm Baptism Orientation-Chapel 6pm Girl Scouts—classrooms 7:30pm AA—Fireside Room Board Meetings</p>	<p><b>10</b> 9am We top 6pm for 6pm</p>
Brandon out			
<p><b>14</b> 9:30am Worship &amp; Sunday School Coffee and donuts — Parlor 11am Lao ELC —Gym 11am Greater All Nations—Reception Room 11am Spiritual Church of God —Chapel 1pm Glory &amp; Hope Church—Chapel</p>	<p><b>15</b> 7:30am Monday Sanctuary Team 11am Veterans' Lunch—Parlor 4:30pm Baton Twirlers—Gym 7pm Cub Scouts—Classrooms 7pm Boy Scouts—Gym 7pm E Team—Reception Room</p>	<p><b>16</b> 9:45am E Team—Reception Room 4:30pm Baton Twirlers—Gym 5:30pm Women's AA—Fireside Room 7pm Church Council Meeting—Reception Room 7:30pm AA—Fireside Room</p>	<p><b>17</b> We 6pm</p>
Brandon out			
<p><b>21</b> 9:30am Worship with Communion and Sunday School Coffee and donuts — Parlor 11am Philosophers' Book Club—Parlor 11am Lao ELC —Gym 11am Greater All Nations—Reception Room 11am Spiritual Church of God —Chapel 1pm Glory &amp; Hope Church—Chapel 3pm Pastor Hattie —Gym</p>	<p><b>22</b> 7:30am Monday Sanctuary Team 9:30 MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers) —Golden Valley 4:30pm Baton Twirlers—Gym 7pm Cub Scouts—Classrooms 7pm Boy Scouts—Gym</p>	<p><b>23</b> 9:45am E Team—Reception Room 4:30pm Baton Twirlers—Gym 5:30pm Women's AA—Fireside Room 6pm Girl Scouts—classrooms 7:30pm AA—Fireside Room</p>	<p><b>24</b> 9am 2pm We 6pm 6pm</p>
<p><b>28</b> 9:30am Worship &amp; Sunday School Coffee and donuts — Parlor 11am Philosophers' Book Club—Parlor 11am Lao ELC —Gym 11am Greater All Nations—Reception Room 11am Spiritual Church of God —Chapel 1pm Glory &amp; Hope Church—Chapel</p>	<p><b>29</b> 7:30am Monday Sanctuary Team 4:30pm Baton Twirlers—Gym 7pm Boy Scouts—Gym 7pm E Team—Reception Room</p>	<p><b>30</b> 9:45am E Team—Reception Room 4:30pm Baton Twirlers—Gym 5:30pm Women's AA—Fireside Room 7:30pm AA—Fireside Room</p>	

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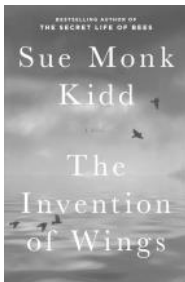
Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>in Spiritual Church of God—Chapel 5 pm Elim Ringtones rehearsal 5 pm Elim Choir rehearsal</p>	<p><b>4</b> 7am BNI—Parlor 9am Leisure Age—Gym 7pm Greater All Nations Bible Study—Reception Room</p>	<p><b>5</b> Men’s breakfast setup — Gym</p> <p>Brandon out</p>	<p><b>6</b> 9am Adonai—Chapel 11am Holy Yoga—Reception Room</p>
<p>Quilters—Gym Wednesday Night Live (see schedule at left of calendar) Confirmation Orientation grades 7-8 in Spiritual Church of God—Chapel</p>	<p><b>11</b> 7am BNI—Parlor 7:30am Bible Study—Conference Rm 9am Leisure Age—Gym 9:30am Bible Study—Reception Rm 6pm Finance Meeting—Conference Room 7pm Greater All Nations Bible Study—Reception Room</p>	<p><b>12</b> 6:30pm Women’s Movie Night—Theater Room</p>	<p><b>13</b> 9am Adonai—Chapel 11am Holy Yoga—Reception Room</p>
<p>Wednesday Night Live in Spiritual Church of God—Chapel</p>	<p><b>18</b> 7am BNI—Parlor 7:30am Bible Study—Conference Rm 9am Leisure Age—Gym 9:30am Bible Study—Reception Rm 7pm Greater All Nations Bible Study—Reception Room</p>	<p><b>19</b> 9:45am E Team—Reception Room</p>	<p><b>20</b> 9am Adonai—Chapel 11am Holy Yoga—Reception Room</p>
<p>Quilters—Gym Thrivent talk Wednesday Night Live Thrivent talk in Spiritual Church of God—Chapel</p>	<p><b>25</b> 7am BNI—Parlor 7:30am Bible Study—Conference Rm 9am Leisure Age—Gym 9:30am Bible Study—Reception Rm 1pm Messenger Processing—Reception Room 7pm Birdtown Theology Pub—Westphal American Legion 7pm Greater All Nations Bible Study—Reception Room</p>	<p><b>26</b> 9:45am E Team—Reception Room</p>	<p><b>27</b> 9am Adonai—Chapel 11am Holy Yoga—Reception Room</p>

# GROUPS AND GATHERINGS

## Elim Book Club

Tues, Sept 9 at 4:00pm

This month's book is *The*



*Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd.

*How to join:* Anyone who has read the book is welcome to attend.

## Women's Movie Night

Fri, Sept 12 at 6:30pm

Join us in the Theater Room!

This month's movie is *Philomena*. Starring Dame Judi Dench, it tells the story of a woman's 50-year search for her forcibly adopted son. Social time begins at 6:30 and the movie starts at 7:00.



*How to join:* Elim women and friends are all invited! No RSVP needed.

## MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers)

Mon, Sept 22 at 9:30am

Need some mommy time? MOPS is just what you are looking for! A group for moms with children ages 0 to Kindergarten where you can find new friends, encouragement, support, and a hot, uninterrupted meal—all while your children are well taken care of. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, starting Sept 22, 9:30-11:30am in Golden Valley.

*How to join:* Interested in joining or helping us out by volunteering in our childcare program? Contact Amanda Hallberg at 612-327-2280 or [amandakayhallberg@gmail.com](mailto:amandakayhallberg@gmail.com).

## Women's Circles

**Ruth:** Mon, Sept 9 at 12:30 pm. Fireside Room. Hostess: Donna Raphael.

**Anna-Esther:** Mon, Sept 12 at 12:30 pm. Hostess: Lois Harlowe.

**Hope:** Wed, Sept 10 at 9:30 am.

**Naomi:** Wed, Sept 10 at 9:30 am.

**Hannah-Martha:** Thurs, Sept 11 at 7:00 pm. Conference Room.

Circle meetings are small-group Bible studies and are part of the community of women in the ELCA.

*How to join:* All women are welcome to visit one or more circles at any time. Call the church office at 763-537-8481 for contact info.

## Philosophers' Book Club

Sundays starting Sept 21

The Philosopher's Book Club is back! One definition of theology is "faith seeking understanding." We will meet in the Fireside Room at 11:00 (after donuts) and review the book of the month. In past meetings, they covered a broad spectrum of Christian and secular thought. Most are available at the library or online. Our first meeting will be on Sept 21 to get acquainted and decide on a book.

*How to join:* no RSVP needed. Please plan to come—it will be fun!

*For more info:* contact Harald Eriksen, [h.eriksen@comcast.net](mailto:h.eriksen@comcast.net) or Mark Tranvik, [tranvik@augstburg.edu](mailto:tranvik@augstburg.edu).

## Birdtown Theology Pub



Thurs, Sept 25 at 7pm

A religious discussion group in a secular setting to help folks feel more at ease. Meetings are held at the Westphal American Legion Hall at 3600 France Avenue. We have a private meeting room available.

*How to join:* All adults welcome. *For more info:* Contact Pastor Chris ([censtad@elim-robbinsdale.org](mailto:censtad@elim-robbinsdale.org)), Harald Eriksen ([h.eriksen@comcast.net](mailto:h.eriksen@comcast.net)), or Erik Haug ([ehaug300@gmail.com](mailto:ehaug300@gmail.com)).

## Bible Study

Thursdays starting Sept 11

The 7:30 a.m. group meets in the Conference Room and is led by Lisa Hansen, an Old Testament Scholar. They are studying the book of Exodus. The 9:30 a.m. group meets in the Reception Room. They are led by Pastor Chris and study each week's Scripture readings.

*How to join:* No RSVP needed. Please join us anytime.

# SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

## Elm Cabin Renovation

We have raised enough funds to begin renovating Elm, Elim's cabin at Luther Park! \$1,600 is still needed for the roof, but inside renovation can begin. We need several volunteers and someone with some contracting experience to head the project as a "general contractor." Renovation will probably begin in late October and early November.

For more info: contact Janet or Tom Nelson at 763-438-6895.

## Craft Items for Bazaar

The women of Elim are looking for ideas and items to sell at the annual bazaar. We have not received many items yet and need your help. All kinds of art, sewing, and home goods are welcome. You can make your crafts at home. Please include your name, phone number, and the cost of materials when you bring them in.

For more info: contact Darlene Knealing at (763) 535-3613.

## KidPack

Tues Sept 23, 4-6pm

KidPack gives students food on the weekend when they don't have access to school lunches. The Heart of Robbinsdale Foundation has given enough money to double what we provide! We pack food for the students of Lakeview school at Emergency Foodshelf Network, 8501 54th Ave N, New Hope.

How to join: Sign up on the kiosk by the church office. For more info: Janet & Rodger Anderson.

## Positive Parenting

Fridays starting Sept 12  
9:45-11:15am at Elim

Would you like to feel better about your parenting? Would you like to feel better about your kids? Stop the tug of war and let Positive Discipline help! This 6-week series of Positive Discipline 101 focuses on solutions, not punishment or blame, and combines kindness with firmness at the same time.

Cost is \$120 and child care is available for \$36. Register or get more info at [www.eteamnow.com](http://www.eteamnow.com).

## Women of Elim, You're Invited! | Oct 3-4

The annual gathering for the women of the Minneapolis Area Synod will be held Oct 3-4 at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

Friday, Oct 3 is an evening for all ages, with buffet, music, games, and an inspirational Bible study. Saturday, Oct 4 is a day of learning sessions and children's programming with a lunch concert.

Cost is Fri \$30, Sat \$50, or both days \$70, with \$5 discount to register before Sept 15. Send registration to 6312 Waterman Ave, Hopkins, 55343 or [www.womenoftheelcamas.com](http://www.womenoftheelcamas.com).

For more info, contact Shirley Mork at (763) 533-3828 or Nadene Balkus at (763) 502-6974. We will arrange transportation and hope that several people from Elim can attend.



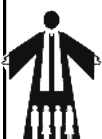
## PASTORAL ACTS

### Funerals

8/4 Richard A. Arntson  
8/25 Mary Thomson

### Baptisms

7/27 Kendall Joan  
Schantzen,  
daughter of Lindsey  
& Kyle Schantzen



## An Exciting Update from the Foundation

The Elim Foundation Board is excited to announce that a letter was received from the IRS stating our 501c3 tax exempt status has been reinstated. This tax exempt status was reinstated retroactive to May of 2010.

This ends a long and difficult process. The Foundation Board would like to thank all Foundation members (Members of Elim Lutheran Church) for your patience and understanding throughout this process.

Terry Carlson, Elim Foundation Chairman

## Finance Reports

Copies of last month's finance report are available to pick up at the church office.

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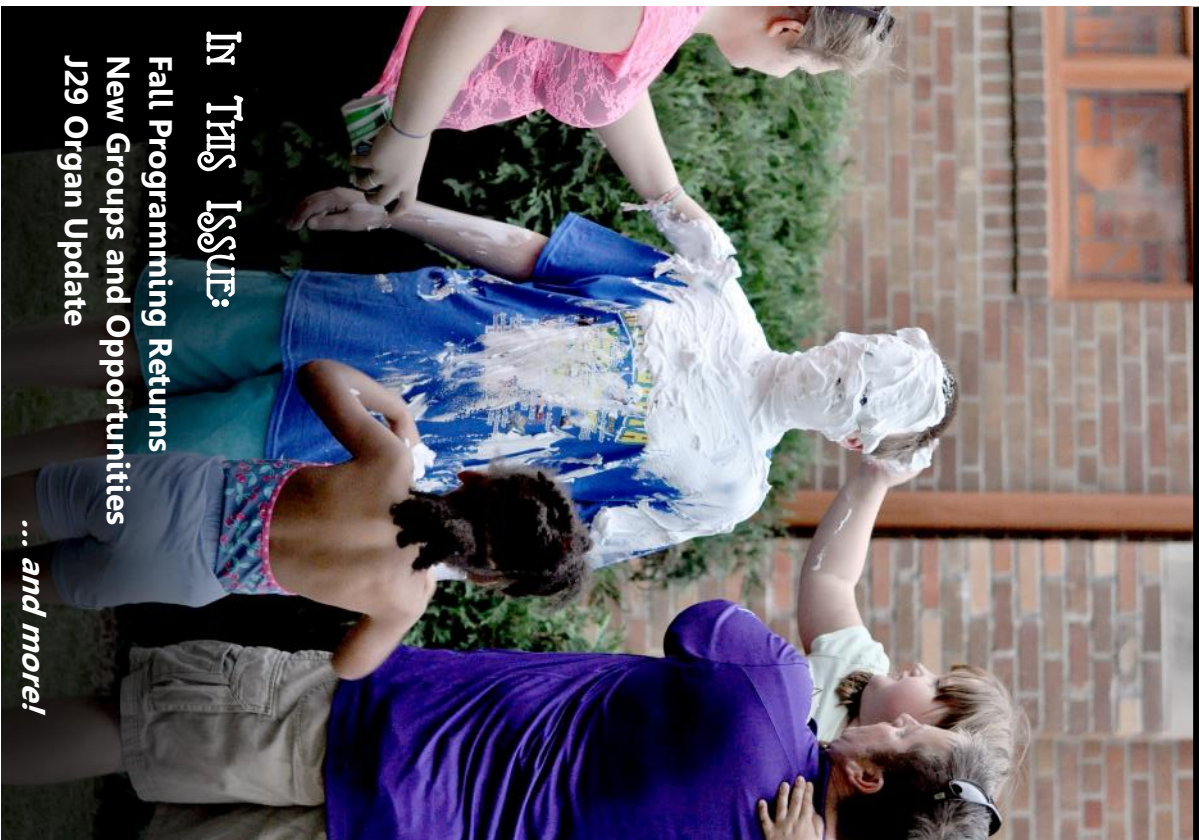
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**SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 9:30 AM**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:30 AM EXCEPT 1ST SUNDAYS**

# *The* **MESSENGER**

September 2014



## **IN THIS ISSUE:**

**Fall Programming Returns**  
**New Groups and Opportunities**  
**J29 Organ Update**

*... and more!*