

LARGE PRINT



Is it worth it?

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 24 & 28, 2025

WELCOME TO ZION. It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

Worship Focus: Disciples of our Lord Jesus share many qualities. As Jesus describes, they count the cost of following him and making him first priority in their lives. They also share a wisdom which comes down from above, the enlightenment of faith. Finally, as Paul urged Philemon, Christians put the best interests of God's kingdom before their own.

In this season, we have now entered fully into the Half Year of the Church. We never leave behind Christ and his work for us which was the center of our attention in the Half Year of Our Lord (Advent-the Festival of Pentecost); but now the emphasis will shift to the result of his work through the Word.

LITURGY: Service of Morning Praise

CW pg. 45

OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP

PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES – We request that you please turn off all devices during the church service. You may keep it on if you are emergency response personnel or if you have an emergency call you are anticipating. Thank you for your cooperation.

BATHROOMS are located in the back of church, just down the hall toward the school. Please ask an usher for help finding them.

HEARING ASSISTANCE EQUIPMENT is available as part of our sound system. Individual hand-held units are available. Please check with an usher if you would like a unit for today's worship service.

VISITORS are asked to please sign our fellowship registry in the back of church so that we will have a record of your visit. Thank you for joining us today!

NEW YEAR

75

Father, Let Me Dedicate



1 Fa - ther, let me ded - i - cate All this year to you,
 2 Can a child pre - sume to choose Where or how to live?
 3 If in mer - cy you pro - long Joys that now are mine,
 4 If you have for me a cross And its shad - ow come,



In what - e'er my earth - ly state, In what - e'er I do.
 Can a fa - ther's love re - fuse All the best to give?
 If on life se - rene and fair Bright - er rays may shine,
 Turn - ing all my gain to loss, Shroud - ing heart and home,



Not from sor - row, pain, or care Free - dom dare I claim;
 More you give me ev - 'ry day Than the best can claim;
 Let my glad heart, while it sings, You in all pro - claim
 Let me think how your dear Son To his glo - ry came



This a - lone shall be my prayer: Glo - ri - fy your name.
 Help me trust you that I may Glo - ri - fy your name.
 And, what - e'er the fu - ture brings, Glo - ri - fy your name.
 And in deep - est woe pray on: “Glo - ri - fy your name.”

STAND



M: O Lord, o - pen my lips.



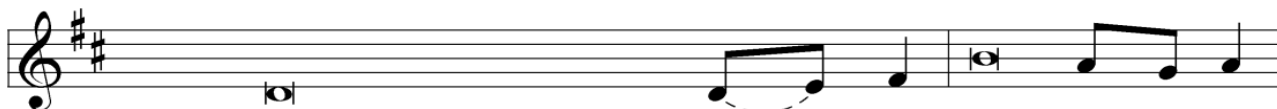
C: And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



M: Has - ten to save me, O God.



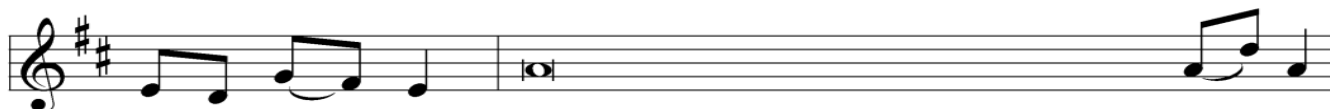
C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



M: (Advent) Behold the_____ King comes: let us wor - ship him.
(Christmas) Unto us the_____ Christ is born: let us wor - ship him.
(Epiphany) The glory of Christ_____ is re - vealed: let us wor - ship him.
(Lent) Behold the_____ Lamb of God: let us wor - ship him.
(Easter) The Lord is_____ ris - en: let us wor - ship him.
(Pentecost) The Spirit of the Lord_____ fills the world: let us wor - ship him.
(General) Praise be to God, the Father,
the Son, and the Holy_____ Spir - it: let us wor - ship him.



C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of



our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing,



let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a



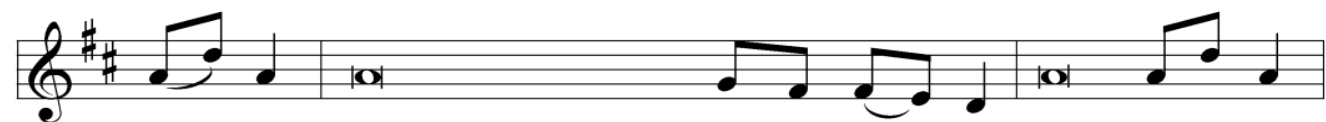
great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are



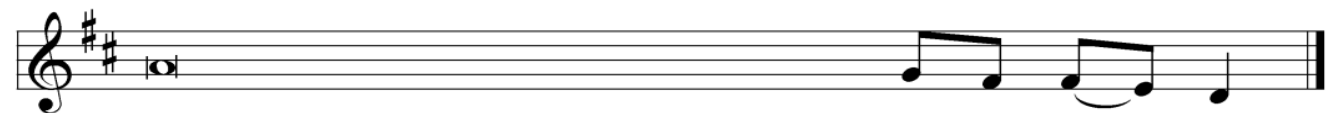
in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he



made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and



bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God,



and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

BE SEATED

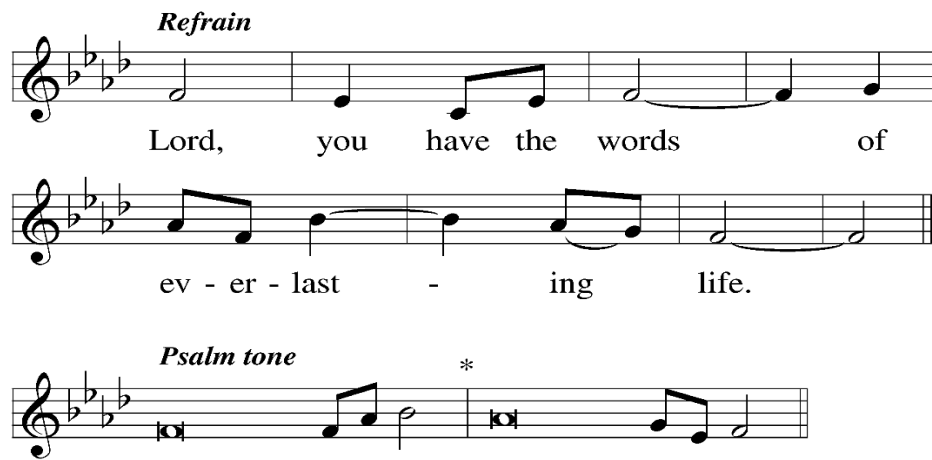
THE WORD

First Lesson

Proverbs 9:8-12

⁸Do not warn a mocker, or he will hate you. Warn a wise person, and he will love you.

⁹Give advice to a wise person, and he will become even wiser. Teach a righteous person, and he will add to his learning. ¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding, ¹¹because through me your days will be multiplied, and years will be added to your life. ¹²If you are wise, you are wise to your own advantage. But if you scoff, you alone will bear the consequences. (EHV)



The heavens declare the glory of God;*
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Their voice goes out into all the earth,*
their words to the ends of the world.

Refrain

The law of the LORD is perfect,*
giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are radiant,*
giving light to the eyes.

They are more precious than gold;*
they are sweeter than honey.

By them is your servant taught;*
in keeping them there is great reward.

Refrain

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart*
be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Redeemer.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Second Lesson

Philippians 3:4b-11

^{4b} If anyone else thinks that he has grounds for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ in regard to zeal, persecuting the church; in regard to the righteousness that is in the law, blameless. ⁷ But, whatever things were a profit for me, these things I have come to consider a loss because of Christ. ⁸ But even more than that, I consider everything to be a loss because of what is worth far more: knowing Christ Jesus, my Lord. For his sake, I have lost all things and consider them rubbish, so that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, which comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness that comes from God by faith. ¹⁰ I do this so that I may know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death, ¹¹ in the hope that in some way I may arrive at the resurrection from the dead. (EHV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say. Rejoice. Alleluia. (Philippians 4:4 RSV)

Gospel

Luke 14:25-33

²⁵ Large crowds were traveling with Jesus. He turned and said to them, ²⁶ “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry his own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, if he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, everyone who sees it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build, but was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, as he goes out to confront another king in war, will not first sit down and consider if he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² And if he is not able, he sends out a delegation and asks for terms of peace while his opponent is still far away. ³³ So then, any one of you who does not say farewell to all his own possessions cannot be my disciple. (EHV)

HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 437

“I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone”

I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone

1 I trust, O Christ, in you a - lone; No earth -
 2 My sin and guilt are pla - guing me; Oh, grant
 3 Con - firm in us your gos - pel, Lord, Your prom -

ly hope a - vails me. You will not see me
 me true con - tri - tion And by your death up -
 ise of sal - va - tion. And make us keen to

o - ver-thrown When Sa - tan's host as - sails
 on the tree Your par - don and re - mis -
 hear your Word And fol - low our vo - ca -

me. No hu - man strength, no earth - ly pow'r Can
 sion. Be - fore the Fa - ther's throne a - bove Re -
 tion: To spend our lives in love for you, To

see me through the e - vil hour, For you a -
 call your match - less deed of love That he may
 bear each oth - er's bur - dens, too. And then, at

lone my strength re - new. I cry to you!
 lift my dread - ful load, O Son of God!
 last, when death shall loom, O Sav - ior, come

I trust, O Lord, your prom - ise true.
 I plead the grace your death be - stowed.
 And bear your loved ones safe - ly home.

Sermon text and theme: Philippians 3:4b-11

Is it worth it?



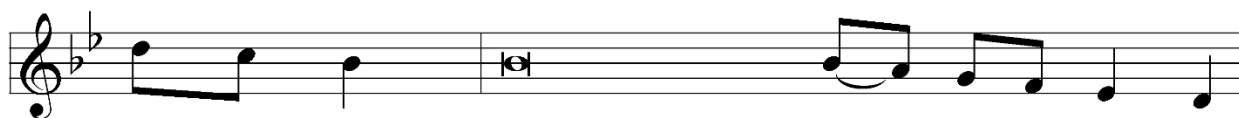
C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



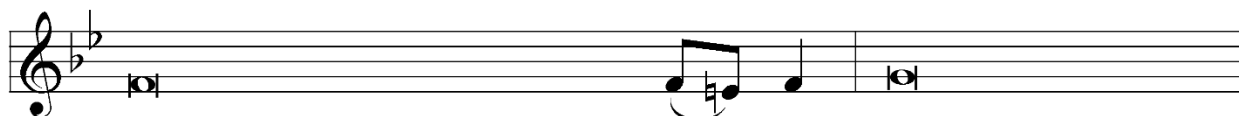
Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



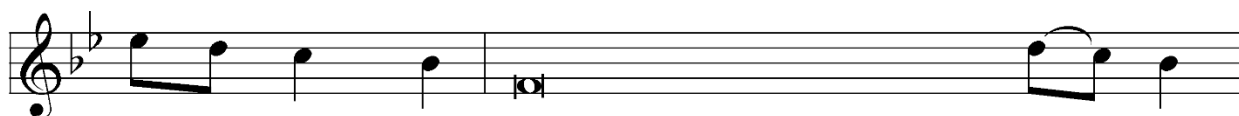
cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of



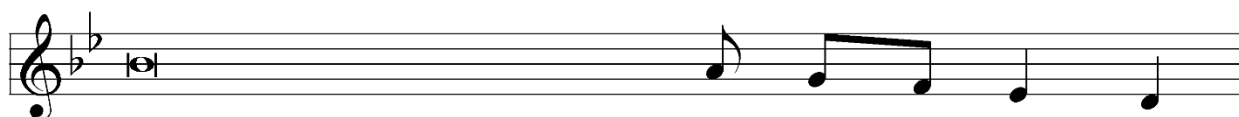
heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



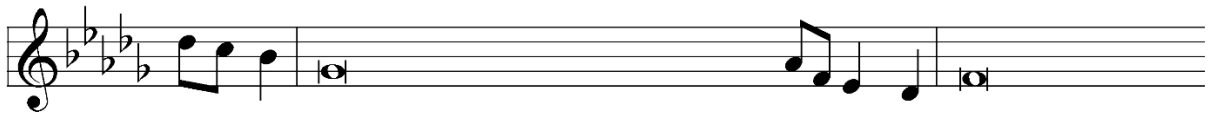
Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,



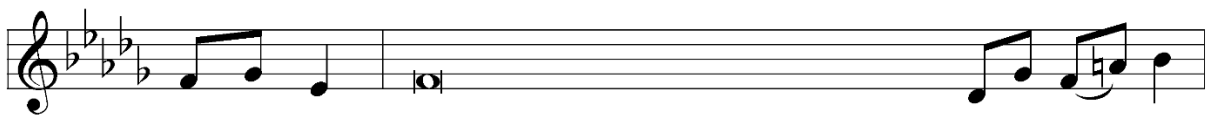
and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir-gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev - ers.



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

OFFERING: *The collection of the offering in the service is an opportunity for the members of Zion to give back to God a small portion of what he has given us in order to support the Gospel ministry of Zion Lutheran Church and School and of the WELS throughout the world. If you are a visitor today, while we appreciate an offering from you, please do not feel obligated to give.*

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie



M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.



C: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR GRACE

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.



M: Let us praise the Lord.



C: Thanks be to God.

BLESSING



M: The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C: A - men.

CLOSING HYMN: *CW 415*

“Be Still, My Soul”

Be Still, My Soul



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
 2 Be still, my soul; your God will un - der - take
 3 Be still, my soul, though dear - est friends de - part
 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on



Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
 To guide the fu - ture as he has the past.
 And all is dark - ened in the vale of tears;
 When we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord,



Leave to your God to or - der and pro - vide;
 Your hope, your con - fi - dence, let noth - ing shake;
 Then you will bet - ter know his love, his heart,
 When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,



In ev - 'ry change he faith - ful will re - main.
 All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your fears.
 Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.



Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly friend
 Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
 Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
 Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 His voice who ruled them while he lived be - low.
 From his own full - ness all he takes a - way.
 All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

Officers

Accompanist: Wednesday – Deanna Schneck

Sunday – Kayla Liechty

Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Greg Sitzman

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; gsitzman@zionmonroe.org

Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; bschneck@zionmonroe.org

CALL MEETING—Pastor Daniel Olson has returned the call. Please keep Zion and St. Paul's in your prayers as we move forward. Details on the next call meeting will be announced soon.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Get to know God through His Word. Please join us on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Mother's room. We finished the book of James and will begin the book of Philippians this week.

FRIENDS IN FAITH:

Ladies of the congregation, you are all warmly invited to join us for the next **Friends in Faith** meeting on **Sunday, September 28th at 11:30 AM**. We'll enjoy a light lunch together, reflect on recent service projects and social events, and plan for the months ahead. It's a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and to help shape the future of our ministry. We hope to see you there!

Christian Book Study – Friends in Faith is hosting another book study on **Sunday, October 19th at 2:00 p.m.** “Tough Questions – Reasoned Answers” Additional information is on the back table if you are interested in joining the book discussion.

Arts and Craft Vender Show: Zion CEA will be holding an Arts and Crafts Vendor Show on Saturday, October 11th. Any member interested in renting booth space to sell should check the back table for information and a sign-up sheet, or reach out to Stacey Sordahl (248) 345-3525; ssordahl@zionmonroe.org. Along with sellers we are looking for volunteers to help with entertainment, parking, run the Zion information booth and mark the field for vendor space. Feel free to take flyers promoting this event to spread the word to potential shoppers! This is a great opportunity for outreach into the community. Hope to see you there!

OKTOBERFEST POT-LUCK: Zion is going to have an Oktoberfest pot-luck on **Sunday, October 12th at 11:30 a.m.** Please bring your favorite fall or Oktoberfest dish to share with everyone. Service and Fellowship will be supplying the Polish Sausage and Kraut. There will also be plain hot dogs for the kids. There is a sign-up sheet in the West foyer so we can plan how much food we need to prepare for the Sausage and Kraut. When you sign-up please list what dish you are planning on bringing so everyone can see the wonderful foods they can try. We look forward to seeing everyone one there.

ZION'S HARVEST PARTY: This year the Harvest Party will be on Friday, October 24th from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Trunk or Treat will be from 7:00-8:00 p.m. There will be a cake walk, face painting, pizza, pie baking contest and many more activities and games.

PLAYGROUND MULCH: On Saturday, October 18th we are going to be spreading mulch on the playgrounds and around the church property. Many hands make fast work so please try to come join us at 9:00 a.m. to get the work done quickly.

MEAL TRAIN:

Zion's Meal Train

There are times in our lives when friends and family ask, "What can I do to help out?"

The answer is usually to help them with a meal.

Friends in Faith has a "Zion's Meal Train". The meal train is open to all male and female members of the Congregation interested in providing meals for fellow members in need. We have organized an opportunity to donate meals for situations including surgeries/recovery, unexpected hospital stays, loss, birth of a child, etc. We utilize the official Meal Train website (www.MealTrain.com) to stay organized. When many friends provide support through a meal, Meal Train keeps schedules, as well as provides locations and dietary restrictions. If you are interested in volunteering to prepare an occasional meal as needed, please contact Melissa Freiny with any questions at 734-652-1638.

OVER ABUNDANCE TABLE: Extra garden produce? What can you do so it doesn't go bad? We have a solution – SHARE. You can bring your extra items into church and share your good fortune with others. There is a table in the west foyer to leave your items. Anyone can come and grab something from the table for **FREE** to take home and enjoy. Thank you to everyone who donates. Everyone please enjoy.

Coming up at Zion

Sunday	9:00 a.m. Worship Service
	10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class
	11:30 a.m. Friends in Faith Luncheon
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Bible Class
	Noon - Mum Sale Pick up
Wednesday	7:00 p.m. Worship Service (IC)
Sunday	9:00 a.m. Worship Service (IC/CC)
	10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class

September Volunteers

	Sept. 3 & 7	Sept. 10 & 14	Sept. 17 & 21	Sept. 24 & 28	Oct. 1 & 5
Altar Guild		Joyce Collins	& Joyce Trowbridge		
Live Stream Helpers	William Robinson	Miller Sordahl	Steve Sordahl	Erich Freiny	Rob Krueger
Ushers	<u>Sept. 3</u> Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson <u>Sept. 7</u> Dave Bengé Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	<u>Sept. 10</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner Bari Waltz <u>Sept. 14</u> Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner Bari Waltz	<u>Sept. 17</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick <u>Sept. 21</u> Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick	<u>Sept. 24</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier <u>Sept. 28</u> Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier	<u>Oct. 1</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Dave McKenzie Joe Schmeling <u>Oct. 5</u> Mark Kipf Keith McBee Dave McKenzie Joe Schmeling
Communion Helpers	<u>Sept. 3</u> Jake Burke <u>Sept. 7</u> Erich Freiny Jeff Heusman		<u>Sept. 17</u> Ken Vagt <u>Sept. 21</u> Rob Krueger Ray Palmatier		<u>Oct. 1</u> Jeremy Robinson <u>Oct. 5</u> Jake Burke Jeff Heusman