

September 2024

Blissfield Place

301 N. Quick Street, Blissfield, MI 49228 | 517-682-1500



Celebrating September

September Birthdays

Liz – September 1st

September Worship

1st Sunday: Worship with Larry Fast
and Mike Harriott

2nd Sunday: Worship with Cynthia
and Danny Murphy

3rd Sunday: Worship with Pastor
Harry Matthews

Berean Baptist Youth
September 11th

Worship with Pastor Jeff
September 4th and 18th

Catholic Mass with Father Jeff
September 19th

Special Announcement:

Pastor Brad Vasey will not be able to provide worship service on the 4th and 5th Sundays anymore. We appreciate his ministry and will miss him. We will be providing worship on Sundays at 4:00 on the

School Days Flashback

As September approaches, the sight of children heading back to school brings a wave of nostalgia, reminding us of how schools used to be.

Back in the day, many schools were one-room schoolhouses, especially in rural areas. Imagine one teacher managing students of all ages and grades in a single room. Discipline was strict—getting the occasional rap on the knuckles with a ruler was not unheard of!

Technology in the classroom was a far cry from today's smartboards and tablets. The trusty chalkboard was the centerpiece of the room, and students wrote on slates with chalk. Desks were often bolted in neat rows, and flexible seating was just a dream. Instead of Googling answers, students flipped through well-worn textbooks and took meticulous handwritten notes.

School supplies were prized possessions. Pencils and paper were often shared among siblings, and ink wells and nib pens were part of the daily routine. Lunches, wrapped in cloth or paper, were brought from home—no cafeteria pizzas or chocolate milk here!

Extracurricular activities, though fewer, were cherished. Recess games like hopscotch and kickball, along with school plays and community events, were major highlights. Physical education was simple and often included activities like dodgeball or relay races.

Getting to school was an adventure in itself. School buses were a rarity, so many children walked long distances, rain or shine. This daily trek often built a strong sense of community, as families and neighbors connected through their local school.

Reflecting on these memories, it's clear that while much has changed, the joy of learning, making friends, and community spirit remains timeless. Here's to celebrating the wonderful memories of school days past!

Measuring God's Love

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17b-19 (NIV) My uncle was looking at the worn brown shingles covering the roof of his house. They were now more of a greenish color from the moss, and a small plant was growing near a low spot on one side. It was time to get new shingles. He knew from working on it years ago that it was a "24 square" roof (using roofing terms). The roofer went up to measure for the estimate. Using laser sights and measuring tape, the guy came up with 36 square. "I don't know how I was so far off," the man exclaimed. The second company measured without even coming in person. They used a computer program and pictures my uncle sent. They came up with 24 square on the first try. Whether we are measuring for home or office projects, judging athletes in the Olympics, or figuring out if a walker can get around another person's chair, we don't always get it right. And the same is true about God's love. We often measure how much or little God loves (or doesn't love) others and us, and we miss the truth. One minister took a 50-foot tape measure and stretched it across a room. "Is God's love longer or shorter than this?" she asked. Is there a tape measure long enough to measure the length of God's love? What if we set a timer. Baking has an end point. So do races at the Olympics. So do most projects. Does God's love end? No timer lasts long enough to measure God's unending love for us. No object can convey "how wide and long and high and deep" is the love of Christ. Scripture says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." This month, may you take time to dwell in the truth of God's immeasurable and unending love for you and for all.

Chaplain Karen

Thank You!

Thank you for helping us make this year's Car Show a huge success! The music, food and classic cars were enjoyed by all. We also raised extra funds for the residents' activities with our silent auction.

DIY Education



Interested in a little self-improvement? Self-University Week is September 1–7. MOOC stands for Massive Online Open Courses,

and this means that anyone can open a computer and join a course online for free. You no longer have to spend thousands of dollars to receive an education at top universities like Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Duke, UCLA, and others that have joined the MOOC movement. Professors have recorded their lectures and have even provided required reading, homework, and final exams. With thousands of people enrolled in these free courses, students cannot expect one-on-one contact with their teachers, but students can easily chat online with other students. Will you earn a degree? Not quite. Some professors offer certificates of completion, but these are not official certificates from the university itself. The goal of MOOC is not to hand out degrees but to offer high quality education to the far reaches of the globe. Do you want to learn Italian? Build a solar panel? Learn how to write good comedy? It's now all there for you at the touch of a button.

Steeped in Tradition



During the 19th century, tea was a scarce and valuable commodity in England. The ports of China were closed to British trading ships, so many had to resort to smuggling tea into England. When tea did arrive, it was very expensive and consumed only by the rich. But if tea was so expensive and consumed by so few, then just how did England become known for its tea culture and its practice of serving “high tea” in the afternoons?

Many credit the practice of afternoon tea to Anna Russell, the Duchess of Bedford. Plenty of Britons were certainly enjoying a cup of tea before Anna, but it was she who popularized taking tea each afternoon. In the 1800s, dinnertime was often quite late. Anna complained of “having that sinking feeling” in the late afternoon when hunger pangs were beginning to strike but dinner was still far off. Her solution? A light snack and a pot of tea. She soon began to invite her friends over to take tea with her and stroll in the gardens. It was an honor just to be invited to one of Anna’s afternoon tea parties. Furthermore, Anna was a friend of Queen Victoria. When the queen herself began taking afternoon tea with Anna, all the ladies of high society copied Anna’s example and began to serve tea as well.

Soon the food served with afternoon tea evolved to include finger sandwiches, scones and cream, sweets, and pastries. The tea itself was served in fancy teapots on low decorative tables, thereby creating the phrase “low tea.” “High tea,” on the other hand, was served at a later hour on high dining tables and was a larger meal meant to act almost as a substitute supper.

Perhaps the most important aspect of tea was the social gossip. This was an opportunity for the women of high society to dish the dirt on each other—in a proper setting, of course. September 3 is Anna Russell’s birthday and would be the perfect day to call your friends to tea.

The Photocopy Pioneer

The next time you make a photocopy, be sure to give thanks to Chester Carlson. He invented the first commercial photocopier, the Xerox 914. His invention was introduced to the public on September 16, 1959, in the Sherry-Netherland Hotel in New York. Its debut was far from perfect, however, with one of the two models catching fire. Despite this mishap, it stunned audiences with its ability to make 100,000 photocopies per month, or one copy every 26.4 seconds.

Carlson invented a copying process called *xerography* as early as 1937. This process, first called *electrophotography*, is based on the natural phenomena whereby materials of opposite electrical charges attract and some materials become better conductors of electricity when exposed to light. Using these principles, Carlson developed a six-step process that created copies much faster than a mimeograph machine and much more cheaply than a photograph. After IBM turned Carlson down, he found support from the Haloid Company. Carlson’s invention proved so successful that Haloid changed its name in 1961 to the Xerox Corporation.

Enthusiasm Unleashed



Sometimes keeping a positive attitude is easier said than done. How do we stay positive? Children may be some of our best models of enthusiasm. Everything is new to them, and they often greet the world with boundless enthusiasm.

During International Enthusiasm Week, September 1–7, welcome a little bit of naïveté into your life and enjoy being mystified and dazzled. Enthusiasm, in some respects, requires a bit of magic and dreams, freedom, and possibility. For the first week in September, walk around starry-eyed, and see if your enthusiasm becomes contagious.

Adventure Awaits



The United Nations established September 27 as World Tourism Day, a day to recognize the importance of visiting other cultures and sharing social, cultural, political, and economic points of view. How, though, are

visitors to know all the rules of etiquette of a foreign country? For example, it is considered rude to order cappuccino in Italy after 11:00 in the morning. In Venezuela, don't show up on time for dinner; everyone is expected to arrive 10 to 15 minutes late. In Norway, table manners are extremely important, and one should always use a knife and fork at meals, even with sandwiches. When in Japan, never point, play with, or stab food with your chopsticks. And never take food from a shared plate with the eating end of your chopsticks; use the opposite end instead.

So how does one avoid making embarrassing or offensive mistakes in foreign countries? These few tips will make you the best kind of tourist—one who is welcomed back. First, learn a little about the country before you arrive. Whether you search the internet, buy a guidebook, or visit the library, learning a little bit about the culture, history, and landmarks of a foreign country will prepare you for your trip. You can learn about the city layout, currency exchange rates, local languages, popular food dishes, unusual customs, and even places to avoid.

After your feet are on the ground, don't rush. We tend to overschedule because we want to visit all the important tourist landmarks. Just because you're in Paris doesn't mean you have to visit the Eiffel Tower. Ditch the checklist. This allows you to enjoy the next two tips: meet local people and visit local places. You don't have to know the local language to be polite and gracious with others. Also, try to shy away from global chain restaurants and hotels. You're on vacation! Allow yourself to feel like you've been transported away from home.

September Birthdays

Those born between September 1–22 are Virgos. Virgos are considered shy and sometimes naïve, private, and very tidy. They are also curious explorers who are incredibly loyal and well respected by their friends and colleagues. If you were born between September 23–30, you balance the scales of Libra. Libras are very social, seek harmony through compromise, and have strong powers of critical thinking.

Salma Hayek (actress) – September 2, 1966
 Alan Ladd (actor) – September 3, 1913
 Beyoncé (entertainer) – September 4, 1981
 Bob Newhart (comedian) – September 5, 1929
 Grandma Moses (artist) – September 7, 1860
 Patsy Cline (singer) – September 8, 1932
 O. Henry (writer) – September 11, 1862
 B. B. King (musician) – September 16, 1925
 Bruce Springsteen (singer) – September 23, 1949
 Bryant Gumbel (journalist) – September 29, 1948

Sweet Cravings



Why is it that after a big meal we still crave something more? Not another helping of meat and potatoes. Not salad. Something sweet. Dessert!

Some scientists say that it's simply conditioning—that we've been trained to eat dessert after dinner since childhood. Others believe that it's a matter of brain chemistry. Eating sugar enables the absorption of amino acids, and these amino acids increase serotonin, which is a powerful chemical in our brains that makes us feel happy. Depriving ourselves of dessert only makes us want it more. Luckily, you won't need to deprive yourself on September 4, Eat an Extra Dessert Day. Remember, desserts eaten in moderation can be part of a healthy diet. Or, instead of unhealthy sweets like cookies and cake, opt for fruits, which contain natural sugars.