



July 2026 Volume 29, No. 7

## Trinity Lutheran Church

A welcoming faith community  
living together in God's love to  
share the joy of Jesus Christ.

# TIDINGS

## Outdoor Worship!

Join us **Sundays July 5, August 2, & September 6** – on the lawn behind the fellowship hall. Bring your lawn chair and sun hat and join in worship at 10:30 am.

## 301 FP Garden

As you likely have noticed, things are pretty quiet in the garden out in the back yard this spring. There are several passages in the Bible that refer to allowing the soil to rest, or lie fallow in the seventh year. Well, the Trinity (301 Faith Partners) garden has been active and producing since 2015...so it is past time for a soil sabbatical! This will also be an opportunity for a small group of dedicated volunteers to finally have some well-deserved rest time too!!! Speaking of the small group of dedicated volunteers...a HUGE thank you to them! Anybody who has planted, watered, weeded, and harvested a garden -even a small one, knows what effort is required! Unfortunately, many of those volunteers, including ME, are at the age that we aren't able to keep doing it, no matter how rewarding it may be! So, during this garden sabbatical year, **it is my hope, and that of the other volunteers, that the garden be given a new life after the sabbatical**...whatever that may look like. And we are all open to suggestions! Ironically, the gospel reading at Trinity was one of those "God whispers" moments this morning...". The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Matthew 9:37-38



## On Break for Summer

Sunday School, Confirmation, HS Youth Group, and Adult Forum, are on break for the Summer! Join us again this fall! A big thank you to everyone who contributed to making these activities a success. Your time, effort, and enthusiasm have made a meaningful impact, and we truly could not have done it without you. We are grateful for your support and collaboration!

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## Text Messaging

We're excited to announce that we have finally started using Constant Contact to send important church updates and reminders via text message! To receive text messages, **each person will need to opt in**. You should have received an email asking you to opt in and then filled in your name and cell phone number and confirm by clicking the "Text me with news & offers" button. You then receive a text message from 970-921-4813 where you need to reply "Yes" to that text message to complete the Opt In.

**If you haven't received that email or cannot find it, click [HERE](#) to start the OPT IN process.**

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## Quilters - Help Needed!

The 301 Quilters are asking for help this summer to sew some quilt tops. We have made kits that are put together with cut 11" squares and instructions. All you do is sew! The kits are in a box in front of the red tote used for Quilt Donations beside the west Fellowship Hall door. If you are able, please pick up a kit, sew at your leisure and then return the top to the red tote. Thank you for your help.

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## Donation Corner

**Prayer Cards Small Group** needs:

- #5 - 1/2 invitation envelopes
- All color card-stock paper
- Any other scrap-booking paper or supplies, even stamps!

**Quilting Small Group** needs:

- We will always collect donated fabric, Fabric, & more FABRIC.

**Thrivent Action Teams:** Are you an eligible Thrivent member and have choice dollars available to direct? There are a number of groups that count on the Thrivent Action Teams.

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



[www.trinitylutheranfc.org](http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org)

**Phone:** (970) 482-1226  
**After Hours Emergency:**  
(970)-400-7252

**OFFICE HOURS**  
MON-THURS 9AM-3PM

**WORSHIP TIMES**  
SAT: 5 PM | SUN: 10:30 AM

**Senior Pastor:** Rick Reiten  
[pastorrick@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:pastorrick@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**Associate Pastor:** Kaari Nieuwlandt  
[pastorkaari@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:pastorkaari@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**Office Admin:** Deana Andrist  
[office@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:office@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**Financial Manager:**  
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**Director of Communications**  
Amanda Backsen  
[amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**Church Musician:** Carrie Hansen  
[carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**Director of Choir:** Tessa Espinosa  
[choir@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:choir@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**Director of Handbell:** Austin Naylor  
[bells@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:bells@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**Saturday Worship Leader**  
Clinton Ellerbe  
[saturdayworship@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:saturdayworship@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**A/V Techician:** Chad Carpenter  
[avtech@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:avtech@trinitylutheranfc.org)

**Sunday School:** Jennifer Reeve  
[childrensminister@stpauls-fc.org](mailto:childrensminister@stpauls-fc.org)

**Nursery Coordinator**  
Tiffany Klijewski  
[tiffany@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:tiffany@trinitylutheranfc.org)

## Pastor Kaari's Kindling

Start thinking...In spring of 2028 Trinity will be taking a trip to Italy through Elias Tours! This trip includes time in Venice, La Spezia and the Ligurian Coast, Cinque Terre, Siena, Florence, and Rome.

Elias writes:

This specially crafted tour blends faith, history, culture, and cuisine into one inspiring experience.

From the romantic canals of Venice to the sun-kissed hills of Tuscany and the timeless majesty of Rome, you'll walk in the footsteps of saints and artists, tasting the best of Italian food and wine along the way. Explore sacred sites like St. Mark's Basilica, the Vatican, and St. Paul Outside the Walls. Stroll through Renaissance Florence, and soak in the coastal beauty of Cinque Terre.

Enjoy hands-on cooking classes, a Tuscan winery visit, and moments of spiritual reflection woven throughout the journey. Whether you're reconnecting with your faith, building community, or simply falling in love with Italy, this is more than a tour—it's a pilgrimage for the soul.

Let this journey renew your spirit and leave you with lasting memories and new friendships.

This trip will be **April 18-28, 2028**. Though you don't have to commit today, start thinking about if you'd like to go on this trip! We'll have a more formal interest meeting later in the year, but if you know now that you're interested, it would be helpful if you let Pastor Kaari know!

[Faith, Food & Wine of Italy with Rev. Kaari Nieuwlandt](#)

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## BBQ & Bluegrass!

You and everyone you know are invited to Sky Ranch's BBQ and Bluegrass on **Friday, July 17 from 4:30-7:30pm**. This is an annual fundraiser for Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp. There will be live Music by Jerusalem Road, yard games, bounce house, BBQ by Bama Breeze included in your ticket. It's a great time for fellowship and to learn what Sky Ranch is up to this year. Tickets are \$25.

Volunteers are needed, sign up [HERE](#).

- Pan o Bars
- Set Up
- Pop Up Tents (3)



## Your Gifts In Action ~ ISAAC

ISAAC of Northern Colorado (Interfaith Solidarity & Accompaniment Coalition) is dedicated to deliberately and joyfully co-creating a society in which all community members feel a sense of belonging, are empowered and connected, and can thrive to maximize potential. All the work ISAAC does is carried out FOR the community, BY the community, with the LOVE that transforms community.

Together as directly impacted community members and interfaith people of conscience, we draw on our embodied knowledge and wisdom traditions, to work in solidarity for human dignity, equity and immigration justice, co-creating transformative communities of welcome, connection, empowerment and belonging as their mission.

ISAAC works as an intentional and highly collaborative coalition of dozens of frontline community partners and local agencies, fifteen faith communities, and hundreds of individuals. They believe that alone we know a little, but together we know a lot. Alone we can do a little, together we can do a lot. The work is centered in community empowerment using a multifaceted strategy of education, leadership development, direct accompaniment and community led advocacy. The goal is to dismantle barriers so that all residents can have equal opportunity to unlock, activate and put their talents to work for their families and community.

301 Faith Partners are strong and hard at work with and for ISAAC via the Social & Eco Justice (SJE) ministry. To learn more about ISAAC or to get involved in any way, please join SJE committee at one of their meetings or ask to be included in the ISAAC emails. The work ISAAC offers is needed as much now as EVER!

**When you give to Trinity, you give to Interfaith Solidarity & Accompaniment Coalition (ISAAC)**

TLC 2026 Ministry Fund Plan Actuals		
	May 2026	Year to date
<b>Receipts:</b>		
Offerings	\$ 28,849	\$ 160,436
SPE and MoM Building Use Donations	4,901	24,505
Building Use	1,307	7,858
Benevity Funds Released	-	2,400
<b>Total Receipts:</b>	<b>35,057</b>	<b>195,199</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
Operating and Support	\$ 29,450	\$ 144,710
Ministries	5,982	55,478
Benevolence/Gifts (Synod, Sky Ranch, etc)	-	.
<b>Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>35,432</b>	<b>200,188</b>
<b>Receipts less Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$ (375)</b>	<b>\$ (4,989)</b>
<b>Total Checking/Savings as of 5/31/2026</b>		<b>\$ 206,136.32</b>
<b>Total Checking/Savings as of 12/31/2025</b>		<b>\$ 245,195.80</b>
<b>Difference</b>		<b>\$ (39,059.48)</b>

## 301 FP JET ECO Tip

Ft. Collins Utilities uses time-of-day (TOD) pricing for electricity. Rates are higher at certain times of day in summer (May to September) and winter (October to April). Weekends and major holidays are off peak. In summer, higher rates apply between 2 and 7 PM (peak air conditioning), and in winter between 5 and 9 PM (peak heating). If your electricity is supplied by another utility, check that Website for TOD rates. Here is a comparison of typical cost per hour for common household tasks for peak and off-peak rates.

Item	OFF Peak/Hr.	Peak/Hr.
Cell phone charger	<1¢	<1¢
TV or Computer	1¢	2¢
Ceiling Fan	1¢	3¢
Slow cooker	2¢	6¢
Clothes washer	3¢	10¢
Dish washer	4¢	13¢
Furnace fan	5¢	16¢
Window AC	10¢	31¢
Space heater	16¢	48¢
Baseboard heater	19¢	56¢
Clothes dryer	24¢	81¢
Central AC	25¢	87¢
Electric vehicle level 2	34¢	\$1.02
Water heater	46¢	\$1.39

From <https://www.fortcollins.gov/Services/Utilities/Pay-My-Bill/TOD>

**Ways to Save** You have more control over your bill with TOD. Try shifting big energy users (like heating, cooling, laundry, and dishwashing) outside of on-peak hours.

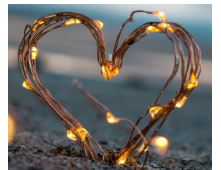
- \* Run the dishwasher before bed or in the morning.
- \* Do laundry on weekends or later in the evening.
- \* Pre-cool your home before 2 p.m. in summer; pre-heat before 5 p.m. in winter.
- \* Unplug unused electronics or use power strips to avoid “vampire” power waste.
- \* Adjust your thermostat a few degrees to reduce demand.



### The heart, hands & feet of God

Thank someone who has lived out their faith by sharing their gifts and made a difference in the church OR community, please email

Amanda, [amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org).



Since November 2025, the Quilting Small Group has sent 50 quilts to Lutheran World Relief, donated \$469 to Habitat for Humanity through sales at the Alternative Giving Fair, presented one comfort quilt to a group member and two comfort quilts to Preschool teachers, and is currently making baby quilts to support Stork Support, with 13 completed so far. Beyond these accomplishments, the group has grown closer both as a quilting community and as friends. The group also welcomed a new member who, along with her husband, recently moved to the area and has joined Spirit of Joy but still plans to continue quilting with the group.

JULY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
<b>5</b> 10:30am Outdoor Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	<b>6</b> 12 pm Sermon Discussion 6:30 pm Male Spirituality	<b>7</b> 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 5:30 pm Soc/Eco Justice 6:15 pm 301 FP SEJ
<b>12</b> 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	<b>13</b> 9:30am Trinity Readers 12 pm Sermon Discussion 5:30 pm Trust 6 pm Property 6:30 pm Male Spirituality	<b>14</b> 6:30 pm Executive
<b>19</b> 9 am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	<b>20</b> 12 pm Sermon Discussion 6:30 pm Male Spirituality	<b>21</b> 5:30 pm Pub Theology 6:30 pm Council
<b>26</b> 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	<b>27</b> 12 pm Sermon Discussion 6:30 pm Male Spirituality	<b>28</b> 5:30 pm FP Eco Justice

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

July 4/5 Sherry Albertson-Clark / Lindsay Reiten

July 11/12 / Katie Barron

July 18/19 / Anastasia Reiten

July 25/26 / Emma Cleveringa

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 11 am FP Clergy Mtg 7 pm FP Get Together	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 5 pm Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 3:30 pm FP Get Together 5 pm Finance 6:15 pm FP Co-Op Mtg	<b>10</b> 10 am Quilting 6:30 pm TGIF	<b>11</b> 5 pm Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 10 am Quilting 4:30 pm BBQ & Bluegrass	<b>18</b> 5 pm Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 7 pm Immigration	<b>24</b> 10 am Quilting	<b>25</b> 1 pm Prayer Cards 5 pm Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6 pm Chap 2 Readers	<b>31</b> 10 am Quilting	

**Pull Me OUT! HANG ME up!!  
PUT ME ON YOUR FRIDGE!**

## Small Group Ideas

Small groups have always been essential to the life of the Church and Trinity is no exception. As we enter our fourth year of intentional small groups, we have found a rhythm of what is working, and there is always room for more. **Do you have an idea/ministry for a small group?** Are you willing to lead? Last year our "Birdhouses for Habitat" was just a dream that has turned into one of the most popular small groups. No idea is out of bounds! God does great things through creative folks, like you. If you would like to add a small group for 2026-27, please send the info to [amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org) - and we will put it in the brochure.

## Small Groups Kick Off

Small groups have always been essential to the life of the Church and Trinity is no exception. As we enter our fourth year of intentional small groups, we have found a rhythm of what is working. If you have never joined a small group, this is the year to try. And, yes we say that every year! Find one interesting group and see how God working in and through this ministry. Come to the Fellowship Hall **after Worship on August 15 & 16** and see what Small Group might appeal to you.

## Small Groups

**Sermon Discussion** enjoy a discussion of the weekend sermon to share where we see God present in our lives. Join us most **Mondays at 12 pm** in Fireside Rm.

**Male Spirituality** carrying on the work of Fr Richard Rohr and Illuman we will utilize the power of ritual, image, and story to expand the depth and breadth of love in ourselves to make a difference in the world, using a circle of structured sharing. Join us **Mondays at 6:30 pm** in Room 5.

**301 Quilters** meets **Fridays from 10 am-12 pm** in Room 2. NO experience needed, NO need to have been coming last year, NO worries. We're a fun and caring small group that has a purpose of aiding those in need. **We will NOT meet on July 3.**

**Men's Breakfast** all men are welcome to join at the Breakfast Club (Ft. Collins) for discussion and fellowship on the **1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday (July 7) at 7:30 am.**

**301 FP Get-Togethers** meets the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 3:30 pm.** For July we will be **meeting twice:** **July 2** and **July 9** both at **AVOGADRO'S NUMBER!** On **Thursday, July 2 at 7 pm**, Mary of Magdala's own Bill Smith and his Jaz Combo will be performing there will be a \$15 entrance fee. You can reserve this event online with Avo's, or pay at the door. Fun music with great food and drink. On **Thursday, July 9, at 3:30 pm**, will be our usual Pub Fellowship. Parking for Avo's is limited. If a spot out front isn't free, then park in the nearby huge parking lot that belongs to First Presbyterian Church. Just be sure not to park in any reserved spaces.

**Trinity Readers** will meet on **Monday, July 13 at 9:30 am** in the Fireside Rm to discuss the historical fiction ***The Giver of Stars*** by Jo Jo Meyers. It is a story of five women, who on packhorses, journey through the mountains of Kentucky. They deliver library books to people during the Great Depression. This program, which started in Kentucky, was later funded by the New Deal. Questions, call Cheryl Smith at 970-218-5750.

## Small Groups cont ...

**TGIF (One Friday a month at 6:30 pm)** - *Note*, Hosts can opt for a Friday of the month that works for them. Come, kick back, relax, and enjoy an evening connecting with others from the Trinity family and meet new faces! Bring yourself, an appetizer/dessert and a beverage you'd like to share. If you have questions and or would like to sign up to host, contact [Liz Johnson](#) or 402-320-3699. **Friday, July 10: Jennifer Anderson.** An RSVP to the host is appreciated but not necessary to attend.

**Pub Theology V.3** will meet **\*\*Tuesdays, July 21 & August 18 \*\* at 5:30 pm at Odell Brewing Company.** We will explore a variety of texts and discuss how we live out our relationship with God and support each other along the way.

**Prayer Cards** Christmas in July! Come think cool thoughts and join Trinity Prayer Cards for Christmas in July on **Saturday, July 25 from 1-4 pm** down in Room 2 by the Nursery! This is a good time to check out what we do, and get a head start on some homemade Christmas cards to send to your loved ones. Feel free to bring a favorite Christmas treat to share! Please RSVP to [Erik Elliott](#) by **July 6** to make sure that there are adequate supplies.

**Chapter Two Book Group** is an open small group for 301 Faith Partners and the wider community, new participants are always welcome to join the casual discussion. No long-term commitment required! If you have trouble finding any of the books and would like Trinity to order a copy for the library, please let [Maddie Fairfax](#) know at any time. **Thursday, July 30 at 6 pm** to discuss *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans. **Thursday, August 20 at 6 pm** to book choice title coming soon. for our August book!

**Little Pantry** continues to be accessed daily by individuals and families in need within our community. Summer is a particularly challenging time, as children no longer have access to school meal programs, placing additional strain on household food budgets. Your continued support helps ensure that the pantry remains stocked and ready to serve all who depend on it.

If you are a Thrivent member and have not yet used your two annual Action Team fund applications, please consider submitting one on behalf of the Little Pantry. These funds make a meaningful difference in our ability to keep the pantry running throughout the summer months and beyond. Every application helps extend our reach to more families facing food insecurity. If you have any questions regarding the grant application process, please don't hesitate to contact Marilyn Morrissey. Your generosity and willingness to give back are truly appreciated, and we are grateful for the role our community plays in supporting this important ministry. God Bless - The Shared Pantry Small Group.

## My Pledge to Care for Creation!

The Joint Ecological Team (JET) of the 301 Faith Partners invites all to consider a new way to help individuals and families be more intentional about how our daily actions relate to others and God's creation. The non-profit [Lutherans Restoring Creation](#) pledge form can be used to track steps toward this goal titled "My Pledge to God and my neighbors to Care for Creation." The pledge form has 16 opportunities for action and paper copies are located in the Fellowship Hall on the right hand side of the green table under the JET bulletin board. Please take a copy and begin to log your progress toward using less energy and enjoying nature more often. Thank You!

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## Ways to Give at Trinity

**Become a Realm giver!** Call the office to get an invite to REALM, our new giving platform. In Realm you can donate from a checking account, savings account or your credit card. Donations can be done weekly, monthly, or annually. Also, you can look at the history of your giving and even print a statement for your taxes. Check it out!

For **One-Time Donations** go to [www.trinitylutheranfc.org](http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org) and click on "Give" at the top of the webpage. Find One-time Donation and follow the prompts from there. Again, you can have the donation come from a checking account, savings account or your credit card.

Are **Qualified Charitable** Distributions (QCDs) an option for you? If you are 70<sup>1/2</sup> years old and have an IRA, you might be able to have the check from your IRA payable to Trinity, and not pay taxes on the distribution (please check with your tax advisor, or financial institution). The same does **NOT** apply if you have a charitable donor advised fund, so I would delete the sentence about that altogether. Check with your financial institution on the frequency that works best for you.

**Does your bank** offer their customers a **bill paying option**? You can check with your bank about this. Some banks do not charge for this convenience. Have **automatic deductions** from your checking or savings account, done weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly.

**Have the Venmo app?** Trinity is also on Venmo! We are "Trinity-LutheranFC".

Use Regular Offering **Envelopes**-either brought to worship or mailed in.

Thank you for taking a moment to consider these options. Please feel free to call the office if you have any questions or need help; 970-482-1226 or email [bmoore@trinitylutheranfc.org](mailto:bmoore@trinitylutheranfc.org).

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## e-News

Are you getting Trinity's e-News? The e-News is an electronic way TLC shares what is happening in the life of our church. Each week, an email is sent out with the weekend's happenings, upcoming events, and news to share. We also use this method to inform members of funerals and other time sensitive news. If you would like to receive Trinity's emails, please email [Amanda](#).

## Highlights from Co-Op Committee Meeting

The Coop Committee, composed of clergy and lay leaders of each faith community, meeting monthly to discuss the functioning of the faith partnership, coordination of collaborative projects, and other items affecting the faith communities. At the May 14, 2026 meeting, the following items were discussed:

Mary of Magdala had a recent Sunday encounter with a potential scammer and wanted to warn the other congregations; it was suggested that each congregation instruct members how to deal with someone showing up at church requesting funds.

Pastor Rick asked that the leadership of St. Paul's and Mary of Magdala consider helping with the purchase of the new furnace that Trinity will be installing this year.

A request has been made for a 301 Faith Partners booth at Fort Collins Pride at Library Park on June 6.

Mother Rosean is proposing we host a panel discussion in late June to address neighbors' concerns about SafeLots; it's been suggested that we go ahead and install outside cameras before that meeting to see what, if any, nighttime activity is taking place outside the church building. If possible, it's hoped that individual conversations with neighbors could take place before the panel discussion.

A preliminary inspection of the speakers to the nursery and Family Break Room has been made. Our AV staff have said the speakers in the Family Break room are now working, but some adjustments need to be made to get speakers to the nursery working again.

Respectfully submitted, Paul Johnson, VP Trinity Council



### Birthdays



Michele Rose	7/1	Carrie Hansen	7/7	Jan Morton	7/19
Aida Schmidt	7/1	Arden Dickson	7/9	Bethany Jackson	7/20
Lynne DeLozier	7/2	Andrew Splittgerber	7/10	Ronda Simmons	7/20
Ezra Orchard	7/3	Bob Waltermire	7/12	Judy Flatley	7/21
Steve Cobb	7/4	Mary Ann Armstrong	7/14	William Foos	7/21
Naomi Jurgenson	7/4	Alexis Dryg	7/14	Ethan Jurgenson	7/25
Lee Lamb	7/4	Cody Hopkins	7/15	Kaari Nieuwlandt	7/27
Marlene Schild	7/6	Dick Morton	7/15	Jack Lipscomb	7/28



### Anniversaries



Patty & Don Heyse	7/1	Debbie & Gary Schwartz	7/17
Cheryl & Tim Dolan	7/5	Ron & Steph Mullenbach	7/18
Nadine & Mike Cain	7/6	Katie & Kevin Dryg	7/22
Pam & Wally Jacobson	7/9	Lindsay & Rick Reiten	7/23
Kathy & Tim Gauger	7/9	Beth & Todd Henderson	7/25
Peter & Sara Mullarkey	7/10	Lauren & Bo Miller	7/25
Bethany & Reuben Jackson	7/11	Jeni & Scott Makinen	7/29
Margaret & Jim Frye	7/15		



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