

This Week at HOPE September 18, 2024



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)

Each year from September 1 to October 4, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. It is a special season where we celebrate God as Creator and acknowledge Creation as the divine continuing act that summons us as collaborators to love and care for the gift of all that is created. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call to care for Creation. We are co-creatures and part of all that God has made. Our well-being is interwoven with the well-being of the Earth.

This year, the theme for the season is “To hope and act with Creation”. As people of faith we are called to lift the hope inspired by our faith, the hope of the resurrection. This is not a hope without action but one embodied in concrete actions of prayer and preaching, service and solidarity.

Here at HOPE we began our celebration on September 8 with a Noisy Offering to help purchase renewable energy blocks! So far we have raised nearly \$500, helping maintain our status of being 100% renewable AND helping to cover the renewable energy expenses of about 12 homes in our community! HOPE’s Green Team will accept donations through the month. Last week we celebrated all the ways God has helped us discover and implement ways of growing more sustainable as a congregation. Check out the “Green with HOPE” time spiral in the sanctuary to learn more about what we’ve done together and feel free to drop off a suggestion in the box about how else you would like us to live into our care for God’s creation.

This week we welcome Mr. Quinn Rowe, Federal Clean Energy Campaign Manager. Quinn will share about his work with Wisconsin Conservation Voters and provide helpful information about the Affordable Clean Energy Plan and the opportunities it may provide. This is a non-partisan presentation meant to help keep us informed as faithful people engaged in a civic world. We look forward to a great conversation!

Finally, next Sunday you are invited to bring in used, but clean towels and sheets for [Coco’s Heart Animal Rescue](#) as we consider the ways we care for other creatures in this season. You are also invited to bring in a picture of your family pet/animals for a special blessing during worship.

As we continue our exploration and celebration of this special ecumenical season, I share with you this reflection:

A Reading attributed to Meister Eckhart (1260-1328)

Apprehend God in all things,
for God is in all things.
Every single creature is full of God,
and is a book about God.
Every creature is a word of God.
If I spent enough time with the tiniest creature—
even a caterpillar—
I would never have to prepare a sermon,
so full of God
is every creature.

Johannes Eckhart (c. 1260 – c. 1328) was a German Catholic theologian, philosopher and mystic well known for his work with pious lay groups such as the Friends of God. He has acquired a status as a great mystic within contemporary popular spirituality, as well as considerable interest from scholars situating him within the medieval scholastic and philosophical tradi-

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RIVER FALLS PACKING EVENT SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2024!

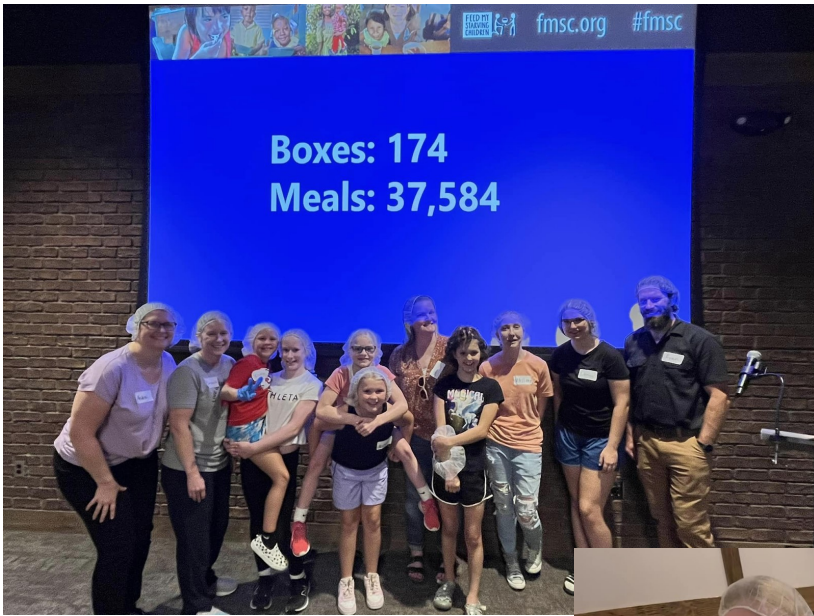
2 Groups from HOPE had a great time joining the River Falls community for this event!

Together we helped pack over 64,000 meals during our sessions!

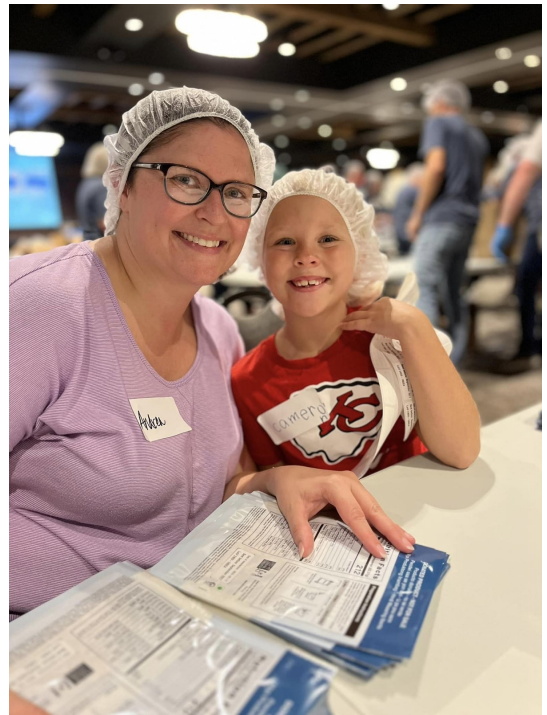
DONATIONS ARE STILL BEING ACCEPTED TO COVER THE PROJECT COSTS
(please insert code 2409-180E when applicable)

[DIRECT LINK TO DONATE TO THE RIVER FALLS PACKING EVENT](#)

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A worldwide celebration
of prayer and action
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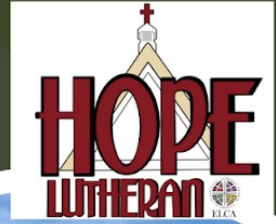
SUNDAYS, SEPT. 08-29

September 8: NOISY OFFERING to purchase RFMU Green Energy Blocks & God's Work, Our Hands Projects

September 15: Green Team coffee hour & community garden give-away!

September 22: *Worship & Adult Forum* guest, Quinn Rowe, of WI Conservation Voters to present on Affordable Clean Energy Plan

September 29: Blessing of the Animals, and used/clean sheet & towel collection for Coco's Heart. Details TBA



This Week at HOPE September 18, 2024



Journey House



The school year is back in session and Journey House has a new program to kick things off! This year, Journey House will be starting The Coffee Stop. The Coffee Stop provides students with a place to study or relax while they enjoy some free coffee. The Coffee Stop will be open on Tuesdays 11:00-1:00, Wednesdays 10:30-1:30, and Thursdays 10:30-5:30.

We're looking for volunteers to help engage with the students, do dishes, and brew coffee. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Emma Esanbock at emma@spiritofgracerf.org. For more information, visit <https://journeyhousecampusministry.org/events/>

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CANDY/PRIZE DONATIONS & TRUNK HOSTS NEEDED!

TRUNK HOST SIGN-UP

Each year HOPE gives out a welcome back as part of the event!
We are collecting candy/prize donations to be included in our welcome bag!
Please bring all donations to HOPE by Sunday, October 20th.
A bin is located in the sanctuary.

UPCOMING NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

Pastor Annie and Congregational Life & Membership Ministry are currently coordinating our next "New Member Sunday" for November. If you or someone you know is interested in officially becoming a member of HOPE, please contact Pastor Annie at [hopelutheranpastor.rf@gmail.com](mailto:hoperlutheranpastor.rf@gmail.com) **by October 27, 2024.**

This Week at HOPE September 18, 2024



**Wednesdays of HOPE resumes September 11th!
Family Orientation TONIGHT September 18th!**

All K-10+ children and youth are encouraged to register!

3 Sessions throughout the year (Fall, Winter, Spring)

New Time! Wednesday evenings 5:45-7:15PM

MEALS NOW PROVIDED EVERY WEEK!

Click below for more info & to register:

[2024-2025 WEDNESDAYS OF HOPE REGISTRATION](#)



The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering lifted up ELCA World Hunger as its partner.
They are still collecting donation to meet their project goal!

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE AND TO DONATE!](#)

Make sure to list Hope Lutheran Church as your congregation!

This Week at HOPE September 18, 2024



WEDNESDAYS OF HOPE MEAL HOSTS NEEDED!
SIGN UP HERE

This year we would like to provide a SIMPLE, kid-friendly meal each Wednesday evening for our Wednesdays of HOPE ministry. This helps families participate in our ministry with one less thing to worry about on a busy weeknight, helps our youth and mentors connect over a meal, and provides an opportunity for other HOPE adults to engage with our children and youth!

Meals need to be ready at 5:45 and we expect to serve 15-20 people total. *Free Will donations will be collected to offset expenses. Donations of money for pizza nights are also being accepted.*

Please prayerfully consider if you/your ministry team would like to host a meal this year! Fall session is currently our biggest need!

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Civic Life & Faith Engagement Next Steps

Thank you to all who participated in our summer series of “Civic Life and Faith” conversations. We had faithful conversation surrounding right relationships with our indigenous neighbors, including better understanding of the Doctrine of Discovery and the importance of its repudiation, and the invitation from the ELCA to review the Draft Social Statement on Civic Life and Faith.

Your opportunity to provide feedback **ends on September 30, 2024**. You can find the survey [HERE](#).

Many have expressed a curiosity about how our ELCA Lutheran identity and theology shapes our civic engagement. United Lutheran Seminary has put together an excellent set of resources for this, titled, “What Does It Mean to Be Lutheran in a Crucial Election Year?” While the first session has passed, there are still 5 sessions remaining. Please see the flier information below for registration information.



June – October 2024, dates listed with topics, 7 – 8:30 pm

Online via zoom (and recorded for later viewing)

Cost \$20 per individual or \$80 per congregation (no limit to number in attendance). Check with synod office for possible funding.

To register, please click [here](#) or use QR code provided below:



What does it mean to be Lutheran in a crucial election year?

As our faith informs our day-to-day lives, Lutherans recognize that “faith is active in love [and] love calls for justice in relationships and structures of society” (ELCA, Social Statement on Church in Society, 1991). We also know the church is called to be a community that prays, deliberates, and acts together when it comes to complex social issues. In this election year, how might our Lutheran faith shape our thinking, acting, and voting on major issues? Join us to learn and ponder timely social teachings of the ELCA and to learn tips for leading discussions in your own community.

June 25: *Introduction to Social Teachings* Dr. Roger Willer, Director of Theological Ethics for the ELCA

August 27: *Corporate Social Responsibility* Rev. Kaari Reiersen, Director of Corporate Social Responsibility for the ELCA

September 10: *Abortion* Dr. Caryn Riswold, Professor of Religion/McCoy Family Distinguished Chair in Lutheran Heritage and Mission at Wartburg College

September 24: *Faith, Sexism and Justice* Dr. Mary Streufert, Director, Gender Justice and Women's Empowerment, and Heather Dean, Program Coordinator, Theological Discernment, ELCA

October 8: *Earth's Climate Crisis Study Guide* Dr. Ryan Cumming, Program Director, Theological Ethics, Education, and Community Engagement

October 22: *Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture* Dr. Richard Perry, emeritus faculty, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago



3 additional opportunities this fall to expand our understanding of civic life and faith:

1. A conversation with Quinn Rowe, Federal Clean Energy Campaign Manager. Quinn will share about his work with Wisconsin Conservation Voters and provide helpful information about the Affordable Clean Energy Plan and its impact on Sunday, September 22nd. Mission moment and Adult Forum presentation will take place.
2. Adult Forum on Christian Nationalism- we will watch a video and discuss together on Sunday, October 6, 10:45AM
3. Presentation and discussion with Rev. Cindy Crane, Director of the Lutheran Office of Public Policy in WI on Sunday, October 20th.



Trinity's outreach ministry, We Do Feet was founded with a mission to provide basic household items to anyone in need, especially those desiring to make a fresh start in life. Since the 1990's, We Do Feet has made a large impact in the St. Croix Valley, now serving hundreds of households annually.

Donations needed:

Beds, dressers, sheets, mattresses & box springs (must be in good, clean shape)
Household items-dishes, silverware, pots & pans, bowls & small appliances

Contact:

715-781-0622

Address:

614 Badlands Rd. Hudson

Volunteers needed:

Weekly shifts are Tuesday evenings from 5-7pm
and Saturday mornings from 9am – noon.



WE DO FEET

Open House

Saturday, September 21st, 1-4pm

614 Badlands Rd. Hudson



715-781-0622



trinityhudson.org



Rush River Lutheran Church

The 77th Annual

Harvest Dinner and Country Store

September 29, 2024

Serving 11:00-2:00

Adults \$16
Children \$8
(ages 7-12)

Cafeteria style menu:

Hand-rolled meatballs, ham, lefse, rommegrot,
cookies and other traditional

Norwegian treats!



Rush River Lutheran Church

N8623 County Road Y - River Falls, WI 54022

(From River Falls, drive east on Hwy 29 for 10 miles to Cty Road Y, then north .5 mile.)

website: RushRiverLutheran.org email: harvestdinnerrrlc@gmail.com

This Week at HOPE September 18, 2024



CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION *Renew - Reuse - Repurpose*

SEPTEMBER 27 - 28, 2024

2024 Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Synodical Women's Organization Convention

**AT SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH,
1310 Main St, Eau Claire**

RESERVE THESE DATES on your calendar. COME! Be inspired as together we sing, pray, laugh, worship, and learn from keynote speakers and awareness session leaders!

We also ask you to participate:

- **display what your congregation is doing for Caring for God's Creation – this can be a display board set on a table or simply a handout describing what you're doing**
- **if you or someone you know makes items by repurposing something, you are welcome to bring for display**
- **Since we are caring for God's creation, we ask that you bring your coffee mug, your favorite water bottle, and your favorite bag or tote for carrying your items**
- **Bring colorful used t-shirts sizes M, L, XL, XXL, and larger to be made into rugs**

Friday evening:

6:00 p.m. registration, snacks and beverages for voting members

7:00 p.m. business meeting - each church unit is entitled to send a voting member for the business meeting which will include financial report, election of officers and conference board members, SWO budget, and any other business to come before the meeting.

Approximately 8:15 close with Holden Evening Prayer.

Saturday:

8:00 a.m. registration, coffee and morning treats

9:00 a.m. Welcome and worship

After worship, Dr. Jim Boulter will have a conversation with us about climate change, its effects, how we can make an impact on climate change as individuals, as a church, and at our workplace. Come with your questions for the Q&A session.

After lunch there will be 5 awareness sessions: how to establish a green team in your congregation, the synod creation team will address their goals and display environmentally safe items that we can use in our daily routines; one addressing food waste, another on Composting 101 and one that provides info on the climate and empowers individuals to work together on climate policy.

COST: \$30. See mailing for more information and registration form!

Phyllis Beastrom, Convention Chair 715-821-5847 beastrom@redwing.net



GRIEF SUPPORT SERIES - FALL 2024

Growing Through Loss

Addressing the experiences of loss and grief through support, education, and advocacy

Trinity Lutheran Church, 115 4th St. N, Stillwater, MN 55082

Tuesdays, September 10 – October 15 6 to 8:30 p.m. (Sign in 6:00, Speaker 6:30-7:15, Small Groups 7:30 to 8:30)

September 10

Understanding the Basics of Loss, Grief and Bereavement

Dr. Janice Nadeau, PhD

Psychologist, Family Therapist & Nurse
Clinical Specialist

September 24

Facing Shattered Dreams/ Dreaming New Ones

Ted Bowman, MDiv

Grief Educator

October 8

Grief: A Natural Disaster of The Heart

Pastor Kris Linner

Retired Hospice Chaplain

September 17

Building Life Alongside Grief

Dr. Mary G. Freitag

Clinical Psychologist and Supervisor

October 1

The Anatomy of Grief: What Happens to Our Mind/ Body/ Soul During Grief

Dr. Charles Bransford, M.D.

Retired Hospice Director

October 15

Grief and The Holidays

Paul Johnson

Retired Grief Counselor

SUPPORT GROUPS

LOSS OF:

- Spouse/Partner
- Child
- Parent
- Sibling or Friend
- Grandparent or Other Relative
- Pet
- Infant/A Pregnancy

OTHER LOSSES:

- By Suicide/Violent Death
- Disability or Health Changes
- Caregiving
- Divorce or Relationship Change
- Empty Nest
- Relocation
- Covid-Related

All are welcome here regardless of race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, ancestry or national origin.

Growing Through Loss is an opportunity to receive grief support and learn more about grief in a group setting, free of charge. Each night includes a brief presentation by a grief educator, followed by small group time focused on particular kinds of losses. Attend a single night or the whole series. Each session is complete in itself. No need to register, we have a place for you here. If a need or barrier exists that prevents you from attending our series please reach out.

www.scvgriefcoalition.com

(651) 413-6698 

scvgriefcoalition@gmail.com

2025 Spring Series

on Thursdays from
March 6 – April 10

Shepherd of The Valley Church
Afton, MN



**St. Croix Valley
Grief Coalition**

This Week at HOPE September 18, 2024



Bakken-Young

Funeral & Cremation Services

Mindful Holidays: Navigating Grief with Compassion and Presence

FREE! Join us via Zoom Webinar
Thursday, October 24, 2024 | 6:30 - 8:00pm

The holiday season can intensify your sense of loss, affecting your mind, body, and heart.

Whether you are newly bereaved or have been walking this path for some time, this webinar will offer you a deeper understanding of how to integrate mindfulness into your holiday experience, fostering resilience and self-care.



Presenter, Heather Stang will discuss:

- Discover coping techniques, such as breathing exercises and meditation, to help you manage the pain of loss.
- Learn practical strategies for creating new holiday traditions that honor your grief and balance the needs of you and your family.
- Develop tools for mindful and compassionate self-care, including setting limits and emotional regulation during holiday gatherings.
- Discuss how to model healthy grieving for children and teens.
- Utilize a personalized worksheet to plan your winter holiday season, ensuring continuous support and a mindful approach.

Heather Stang, MA, C-IAYT, is the author of [Living With Grief](#) (formerly [Mindfulness & Grief](#)) and the guided journal, [From Grief To Peace](#). She holds a Master's Degree in Thanatology from Hood College, and is a Certified Phoenix Rising Yoga Therapist.

Register at: bakken-young.com/event/fall-2024-webinar

Questions? Contact Julia Rajtar, Grief Support Coordinator
(715) 781-4003 or julia@bakken-young.com

Bakken-Young Funeral & Cremation Services

River Falls (715) 425-8788 | info@bakken-young.com | New Richmond (715) 243-5252

Visit our grief support page for more information on events and resources at: bakken-young.com

This Week at HOPE September 18, 2024



Bakken-Young

Funeral & Cremation Services

Grief Support Groups

Bakken-Young Funeral & Cremation Services sponsors a six-week grief support group for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one.

Group held in New Richmond, 6:00-7:00pm

Mondays, Sept 9, 16, 23, 30, Oct 7, 14, 2024

at New Richmond United Methodist Church,
209 E Second Street, New Richmond, WI 54017

RSVP by Sept 8, with name, phone number, and email.

Group held in River Falls, 6:00-7:00pm

Mondays, October 21, 28, November 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024

at St. Bridget Catholic Church

211 East Division Street, River Falls, WI 54022

RSVP by Oct 18, with name, phone number, and email.

Living with a Suicide Death Support Group

Offers a place where adult suicide loss survivors (*family and/or friends whose special person has died by suicide*) can

- Feel less isolated by sharing their experiences with others who understand from their own personal experiences
- Experience a place where they can speak openly and where people will listen without judgment and truly understand
- Encounter an opportunity for loss survivors to learn from each other

Once a month, 2nd Thursday of each month

6:00 pm—7:30 pm

Please call Julia Rajtar, Bakken-Young Grief Support Coordinator, AFSP Facilitator Trained, at [715-781-4003](tel:715-781-4003), for more information.

Bakken-Young Grief Webinar

Mindful Holidays: Navigating Grief with Compassion and Presence

Zoom Webinar

Thursday, October 25, 2024 | 6:30pm—8:00pm CST

Bakken Young Funeral and Cremation Services invites you to a free grief webinar for those coping with grief around the holidays.

(I am also attaching the flyer which you are welcome to share)

This Week at HOPE September 18, 2024



All are invited & needed
to participate in the leading of worship!
Please prayerfully consider sharing y
our time and talents!

SIGN UP HERE

Want to help but not sure what the job entails?
Learn more in our [Worship Volunteer Guide](#)

This Week at HOPE September 18, 2024



All are invited to join Pastor Annie for this weekly small group conversation and Bible study!

This is a great chance to grow in relationship with God and one another.

Discussion time includes group check-in, opening meditation, and study of the week's worship texts.

We meet via Zoom so all can join from wherever you are!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88419155061?pwd=di9hUXlraeDdzM0dCK0pPMDNtbHczZz09>

This Week at HOPE September 18, 2024



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Scott Ullring (Friend of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

John Cain (Family friend of Olive Olson)

Robb Scott

The Family of Joyce Kendall (Mother of Cara Getschel)

The Family of Teresa Jonas (Friend of Kay & Bill Montgomery)

Brad Hermann (Friend of Pastor Annie)

Jerry Sather Family (Brother of Karen Hamilton)

The Family of Woody Fangmeier (Friends of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

Family of Kermit Paulson

Marcus Stack (Friend of Steve & Karen Kaste)

Janet Cudd (Friend of Jeff & Karen Rodewald)

Jeremy Martinson (Brother-in-Law to Elise Forward)

Family of Teajai Schmidt (relative of the Boocks)

Jacob Dan and family (Friends of Jeff Rodewald)

Karen Hamilton

Patricia Miller (Sister of Carl Warren)

Rhiannon Bondhus (Niece of Bondhus family)

Lori Snyder (Friend of Nancy & David Peters)

Ed and Gwen Paulson

Randy Dopkins (Family friend of Olive Olson)

Eden Annoye (Relative of Debra James)

John Weller (Cousin of Karen Brohaugh)

Dave and Deb Haugen (Family of Ellen Roose)

Phyllis and Tom Haugen (Family of Ellen Roose)

Fatma Aljarrah (Friend of Faye Perkins)

Beth Lindgren Family (Dan Malaney)

Michael Jacobson (Brother of Linda Jacobson)

Barb Carmichael (Friend of Nancy Sailer)

Dennis & Sandy Schultz (Friends of Bill & Kay Montgomery)

Nancy Miller (Friend of Paula & Phil Klacan)

Linda Shurden (Friend of Nancy Sailer)

Hannah Forward

Amanda Olson (daughter of Olive Olson)

Ella Conover (Phil & Paula's Klacan's Niece)

Daryl Kleeman (brother of Darcy Boock)

David Boock (Relative of the Boocks)

Lee Hill (friend of Naomi)

Gary Siebold

David Hendrickson



September Birthdays

Sarah Bondhus	3-Sep
Zachary Heinselman	6-Sep
Mariah Sandberg	8-Sep
Keri Jiskra	8-Sep
Dale Wegleitner	8-Sep
Jane Terkelsen	10-Sep
Jeff Rodewald	12-Sep
Isaac Hansen	20-Sep
Dan Rodewald	27-Sep
Morgan Porten	29-Sep
McKenna Brill	30-Sep
Vicki Siebold	30-Sep



September Baptisms

Brynn Leitch
 Nancy Sailer
 Vicki Siebold
 Dale Wegleitner



Celebrating Years

September Anniversaries

Keith & Cara Getschel	16-Sep
Tyson & Wendy Tokheim	23-Sep
James & Debra James	27-Sep

35
 24
 22