

AVUCC

KALOS

*Newsletter for the
Almaden Valley
United Church of Christ*

Pastor Kevin's Corner:

Save and Savor

E.B. White, the noted children's author of *Stuart Little* (about a mouse born of human parents) once said "if the world were merely seductive, that would be easy. If it were merely challenging, that would be no problem. But I arise in the morning, torn between a desire to improve (or save) the world, and a desire to enjoy (or savor) the world. This makes it hard to plan the day."¹ I think here at Almaden Valley United Church of Christ can have something we all want: we can have it both ways!

In our Congregational history we have been a church of great social activism. We helped slaves move north to safety on the Underground Railroad because we believe that God loves all people and that human sisters and brothers should treat each other with love, fairness, and compassion. Here at AVUCC we have built homes for the homeless and fed the hungry. When Jesus reached out the leper he was being a social activist. Jesus' faith moved him to activism. Jesus still today tries to save the world through his modern day disciples of social activism.

Also, in our church history we have supped on many a tuna casserole and played parts in musicals that thrilled our hearts and filled our ears with the beauty of music. We have played golf and volleyball and danced together to the tunes of Bob Thomas' great swing music band. Through our efforts at having fun (or "PHUN" as Dave Harris terms it!) we have done what God would have us to do, and that is to savor the world and savor each

September 2009

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KALOS

Monthly Newsletter

Almaden Valley United Church of Christ
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other's company. Fellowship is critical to recharging our social and moral activism batteries.

In this space at this time I would like to encourage all of you in this new season of the church—young and old, retired and still working—to engage enthusiastically in both helping save and savor the world! And, invite your friends outside of church to join us in our work of following the path of Jesus. Get active in our fellowship activities and in the work we are about to embark on through being good disciples in our Almaden community. Blessings and light to one and all!

Pastor Kevin

1—White, E.B. quoted in "Balance Justice and Joy." Owen-Towle, Tom. *Growing A Beloved Community*. Boston: Skinner House Books, 2004, p.43.



Moderator's Notes - September 2009

My self-imposed exile is over. I was wondering if anyone would actually notice there has not been 'Moderator's Notes' for last few months. Based on the comments at the June 28 Semi-annual meeting, some of you have noticed but didn't want to bother me about it. Bother me, please!

During the Semi-Annual meeting, I provided my perceptions of the first six months of being moderator and some perceptions of my time as vice-moderator. Some of the things I said, I wish I would have stated differently. Some of you have let me know you did not appreciate my reference to a former pastor of AVUCC as a 'ghost'. I did not mean any disrespect to Reverend Jack Takayanagi. My use of the term 'ghost' was to emphasize that since my time as vice-moderator and even during some of my time as moderator, there was a tendency to compare our current pastor to the former pastor, almost to the point that some wish the former pastor was still here. I believe for our congregation to be in covenant with the pastor and each other, we have to

mitigate comparisons to former pastors and allow our current pastor to perform his duties as spiritual leader and teacher of AVUCC.

Another perception I have observed is either apathy or a lack of energy within the congregation. Why is it so hard to get volunteers to help out with Sunday services or take part in church governance or committee work? I can understand busy schedules, but surely some time can be spared to help out with worship (lay reading, ushering, communion) and greeting/coffee host. We have a dedicated group of individuals that are constantly filling in due to the lack of volunteers. Let's give them a break and let's all become involved in the life of the church by providing additional stewardship through volunteerism.

Speaking of volunteerism, the Nominating Committee (yes, it is that time again) will be meeting shortly. If they call on you, please consider donating your time and talents to a committee or the church governance. For the 2010 council, we will need a vice-moderator, a youth representative, and three at-large members. For JV board we need three candidates (it is tradition, but not mandatory that the outgoing moderator serve on JV; I will serve if no one else wants the third position). Note that it is AVUCC's turn to serve as JV President, so one of our candidates will serve as president.

For 2009, we placed on hiatus the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC). This committee should be started again, I believe, with members that have an interest in the long-term health and goals for AVUCC. Think of the LRPC as strategists examining and recommending long-term direction for the church. If the LRPC is something you are interested in please contact me.

*Shalom,
Chuck Smith
408-218-1794 (cell)*

Treasurer's Cubicle

At its 11 August meeting, the Council discussed financial results for July 2009. Detailed results are posted outside Fellowship Hall.

On a cash basis, July showed a cash basis operating deficit of \$10600. Besides the normal summer slowdown in pledges, most of the pledges received were not deposited August. Despite that, with 58% of the year over, operating budget was right where it should be, with income at 60% of budget for the year and expense at 59% of budget.

Account and Fund Balances	Beginning Balance 06/30/09	Credits	Debits	FINAL Balance 7/31/09
Bank Account Statement Amounts:				
Checking	31,116	6,712	-17,320	20,508
MM	42,805	18	0	42,823
CD	40,063	46	0	40,109
CU	0	0	0	0
SmithBarney	0	0	0	0
Total Bank Accounts	113,984	6,777	-17,320	103,441
Fund Allocations:				
Past operating	17,342	0	0	17,342
Current income	80,423	6,777	0	87,200
Current expense	-89,495	0	-17,320	-106,815
Future operating	3,768	0	0	3,768
Committee funds	3,159	0	0	3,159
Donation funds	756	0	0	756
Transfer funds	0	200	-200	0
Long term funds	98,030	0	0	98,030
Total Fund Allocations	113,984	6,977	-17,520	103,441

It remains essential that every pledging member keep current on pledge payments. Every month we have a minimum of \$13000 and an average of \$15000 of budgeted operating expense to be paid.

Before memories fade, I am collecting information about intended and acceptable uses of our various short- and long-term funds. Please see: <http://avucc.oakapple.net/treasury/2009/funds.html> and let me know if you have information to add.

David Hough



People in the Pews

TRIBUTE TO STAN YUMEN – August 2nd.

On Sunday, August 2nd the folks at AVUCC celebrated the many gifts Stan and Ethel had given to our church over the past 44 years. The Yumens were part of the Founding Family Committee and both gave so readily of their gifts and talents.

Stan is now living with daughter Joy and her family in the Tahoe area. He promises to come back for visits from time to time. The party in his honor was well attended. People who had moved away and folks that had attended AVUCC previously along with all the regular attendees had a chance to say “thank you Stan” for being such an important part of our church’s life. In Stan’s and Ethel’s honor we are placing a plaque on the door of the Pastor’s Office to honor both of them. We have all been blessed and touched by both Stan and Ethel and will always hold them close in our hearts.

The committee headed by Betty Benson and Carolyn Crowley did such a good job. We had delicious stratas, fruits, sweet breads and wonderful fellowship too. Thank you to all who contributed to this fun event.

Stan’s Tahoe Address: 3558 Morton Dr. So. Lake Tahoe 96150 - Phone: (530) 573-0179 (Barney’s Phone) Morton Drive is a dead zone for his cell phone, leave a message and he will get back when he is out of this zone.

Stan Yumen called me and asked us to let you all know that he and his family were so moved by the wonderful tribute in their honor. Thanks to all who

made that morning at Worship so very special. Special thanks to all who attended, folks from out of town and messages of appreciation and the gift of our traditional framed church picture and especially the honor of having the plaque placed on the Pastor's door. Stan is the caretaker for a week or so of dogs, cats, fish and many other animal species while Joy and her family are on a trip to Europe. .

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Sue Scaff – Sue has been promoted to full Professorship at San Jose State Univ. which is the highest rank. Sue also had a wonderful summer with travel to Europe and then time to spend with her children and grandchildren on the East Coast.

We congratulate Megan Haley who received a scholarship to Elon College in N.C. starting this fall. She will be studying Music and Theater. One Sunday in July we had the great pleasure to hear Megan and Shannon sing “For Good”. They did such a beautiful rendition of this very special piece of music. What a great gift it was for all of us who were in worship that morning.

Congratulations to Ross Hemeon (a former member of AVUCC who now lives in Gilroy). Ross announced his engagement to Margaret Regan. We had the pleasure of seeing Ross and his new fiancée at the party for Stan Yumen. No wedding date has been set yet. Ross and his family were very active at AVUCC starting in the early days at the Prune shed.

Congratulations to Thyra Tegner – she writes:

“It was lots of fun to participate in the 2009 Summer National Senior Games which were held at Stanford, Aug 1 – 15. I swam the 50, 100 and 200 yards Freestyle and Backstroke events and improved my times in five events. Since I was the oldest in my age group, I “age up” next year (yea!)...I was very pleased to win four ribbons (which are given up to eighth place.)

I enjoyed meeting swimmers from across the country and visiting with two of my Stanford classmates – one of whom started competing in track at age 60 and just won a world record!

Anyone who is 50+ years may compete in the 2010 state qualifying meets and if they are among the top three in their age group, may compete at the 2011 Summer National Senior Games which will be held in Houston, Texas.”

We say a big thank you to Eric Gaydon and his wonderful family who supported him in his quest to raise funds to benefit Heifer Intl. The garage sale at church was a big success (and also fun too). We understand that approximately \$1,700 was raised from this venture. Thanks to all who contributed items for sale and a special big thanks to all who helped setup and take down at the end of the day.

(Note: There was a wonderful article about Eric and the garage sale in the local Almaden Times. We at AVUCC were first introduced to Heifer many years ago through Rev. Jack Takayanagi. The Sunday School children at that time raised enough money to buy a cow. So the seed for helping others less fortunate was planted many years ago at AVUCC and we are fortunate that Eric Gaydon is carrying on this tradition. Thank you Eric and thank you to his supportive family)

Visitors welcomed: Mike and Connie Moore shared in worship on Sunday the 9th. They live in Morgan Hill. They had met with Pastor Kevin earlier in the week. We hope to get to know them better in the weeks ahead.

Great to see Bob Thomas playing his clarinet on Folk Sunday. Grateful that he and Ariss are able to worship with us as their health's allow.

Our sympathy to:

Debbie Bemis and her family in the recent death of her dad Roger. The Bemis family were very active and involved with AVUCC for many years. Debbie and her brothers shared their musical talents with all of us on many occasions.

We continue to hold these folks in our prayers

Bob and Ariss Thomas

Angela Smith who had surgery recently

John Graham and his family

Joan Curtice had knee surgery on Aug 10th

Love: The One Creative Force.

Spread love everywhere you go: first of all in your own house. Give love to your children, to your wife or husband, to a next door neighbor...let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness; kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting.

-Mother Teresa
Dot Alfrey



**“Keep Those Gophers Out” and
“Make The Roses Grow”**

My name is Doug Lukanc and I am a member of ECA. I am a Life Scout of Boy Scout Troop 294 that meets here at the church on Mondays. I am working on a project to obtain the rank of Eagle Scout. For my project, I am going to revitalize the rose garden. I plan to build new beds and gopher proof the roses. To complete this project I will need to dig up and transplant each of the remaining roses. I know some of the roses have been placed in celebration or in memory of someone special. If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to talk with me about the roses, please contact me.

Doug Lukanc
Dlukanc@gmail.com
(408) 997-3859

Outreach

Beneficio Coffee

Still a bargain at \$8.25 per 12 oz. bag (which is recyclable). To order, please contact Phyllis Chai at 226-7150. Know that you will also be helping the small farmers and their families in Costa Rica.

Aluminum Cans for Habitat

It is time again to donate your empty aluminum cans to a good cause. When you see the Habitat Aluminum Can Collection sign hanging in front of the church, cans can be left anywhere in the vicinity of the sheds by the Rose Garden. These cans will be moved to a secure area periodically and after the weekend, taken to the recycler for cash. That cash is then donated to Habitat for Humanity.

Thanks to our dedicated soft drink and other canned beverage drinkers plus their willingness to collect, save, and deliver those empties to church, we raised \$300 for Habitat for Humanity in February. That was impressive. And now with warmer weather...

Thank you for your help with this effort. If someone would like me to pickup cans at your home, give me a call.

Tom the Can Man, 268-4819

Events and Dates

Steak n’ Stein Sept.19th, 2009

Attention: All men who like good food, good fun, and good fellowship mark your calendars for Sept. 19th, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. Tri-tip and chicken are the main meats. All the fixings including dessert complete the food portion of the meal. There will be beer, wine, and soda to drink. Just think of all you can eat and drink for just \$25, and you know this is a bargain. Sign up in the fellowship hall and pay before Sept. 17th or the price goes up to \$30 (not quite as good a bargain). We’ll all have a good time. Don’t be afraid to bring friends with you. They might have so much fun they’ll start coming to Church too!

Quest

The ladies weekly Quest study group will resume meeting on Wednesday September 9th at 9:30 a.m. in the choir room of the church. We have agreed to begin reading and discussing the book GOD IN MY LIFE (faith stories and how and why we share them), edited by Maren Tirabassi and Maria Tirabassi. Please know that you are welcome to join us.

Phyllis Chai

JV Book Group

The Book group meets the 3rd Wed of the month at 7:30 pm. Contact person: Amy Griffith

September 16-Jackie Whitlock

A Gift From the Sea by Anne M. Lindbergh

October 21-Amy Griffith

The Camel Bookmobile by Marsha Hamilton

November 18-Suzanne Mayo

Still Alice by Lisa Genova

For 2010

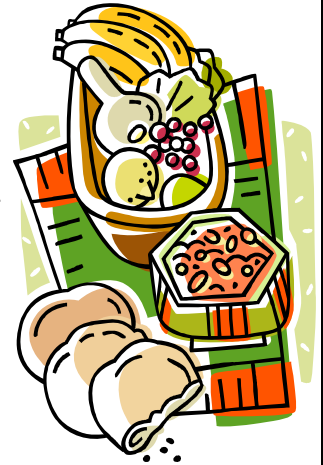
January 20	Betty Benson
February 17	Kathryn Hussain
March 17	Virginia Jones
April 21	Linda Farr
May 19	Kathy Kisabeth
June 16	Betsy Shoup
July 21	Audrey Wiedrick
August 18	Bessie Hutchins
September 15	Kelli Casale
October 20	Mary Leal
November 17	Joan Wagner



Welcome Back Picnic

AVUCC will hold a Welcome Back Picnic after church on September 27th. Families are asked to bring their own meat for barbecuing and one dish to share. Join us to celebrate the end of summer and the beginning of a wonderful new school year.

Sue Scaff



Annual Meeting

The date for the AVUCC annual meeting will be November 8, 2009. The meeting will be held in Fellowship Hall after church.

Sue Scaff

First Men's Breakfast of the Season

October 3, 2009, 8:00 AM
for Men's Breakfast

Women are invited for the program at 8:30 AM in Fellowship Hall.



Program: THE SAN JOSE FIRE MUSEUM

The Fire Museum is housed in a warehouse at present, awaiting a new home in a more appropriate place downtown. The museum consists of 27 pieces of firefighting apparatus including old trucks, some restored, some not; pumpers and old cars including a 1905 Cadillac Chiefs car.

A short talk will be given at the church, before a tour of the Museum, located at 1661 Senter Rd., #D1, San Jose. Due to parking constraints, ride pooling is encouraged. Women are invited for the talk and tour.

Questions? Contact Bob Green at 268-6506 or Dick Shipe at 268-8038.

September Birthdays

Jim McAbee	9/6
Al Nieders	9/6
Alice Near	9/9
Rebecca Sunseri	9/9
Hi-Dong Chai	9/10
Alice Bullard	9/11
Londa Larson	9/11
Dick Shipe	9/12
Jacob Graham	9/13
Jean Shipe	9/14
Pat McGarvin	9/19
Delaney Gaydon	9/20
Laura Hall	9/21
Robyn Dorsey	9/22
Carolyn Hennings	9/25
Frank Yamada	9/26
Alex Bemis	9/28
Joe Machado	9/28
Christian Daley	9/30

September Anniversaries

Bob & Phyllis Green	9/6
Dick & Jean Shipe	9/7
John & Kathy Graham	9/16
Kevin & Karen Haley	9/19

September Worship

<u>Sermons/Children's Time</u>	<u>Rev. Kevin Smith</u>
September 6	Pastor Kevin
September 13	Pastor Kevin/Sandy Baldwin
September 20	Melanie Click
September 27	Pastor Kevin

<u>Lay Readers</u>	<u>Sandy Baldwin dsbald@comcast.net</u>
September 6	Melanie Click
September 13	Carla Gerber
September 20	Gwen Hacker
September 27	TBD

<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Dot Allfrey</u>	<u>268-2973</u>
September 6	Eric & Alec Fernandez	
September 13	TBD	
September 20	TBD	
September 27	TBD	

<u>Greeter/Coffee Host</u>	<u>Linda Farr</u>	<u>268-8210</u>
September 6	Steve Coutinho	
September 13	Diane & John Hawes	
September 20	Phyllis & Hi-Dong Chai	
September 27	Kathryn & Jim McAbee	

<u>Communion</u>	<u>Sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall</u>
September 6	Bill & Dot Allfrey

<u>Break-out</u>	<u>Tami Nieders</u>	<u>268-7681</u>
September 13	TBD	
September 20	TBD	

<u>Bread Making</u>	<u>Melanie Click</u>	<u>323-8283</u>
September 27	Melanie Click	

<u>Sanctuary Flowers</u>	<u>Sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall</u>
September 6	Anne Spanjaart
September 13	Susan Gaydon
September 20	Joy Austin-Lane
September 27	TBD

We need volunteers to help with worship service. This is an essential part in the operation and vitality of our church. Many of you have and will continue to help with worship and other activities in the church. This is a great opportunity for those of you who have yet to help in our worship service.

Worship duties included: Ushering, Communion Service, Greeting & coffee hosting, Lay reading, Break-out for the kids, Bread baking, and providing Altar Flowers, doing one of the Children's Sermons, and for those of you who want a real challenge with the approval of Pastor Kevin, an Adult Sermon.

The really great thing about doing service for the church is that you get more out of it than you put into it. Take one step towards God, and He will take two steps towards you.

Dennis Elliott

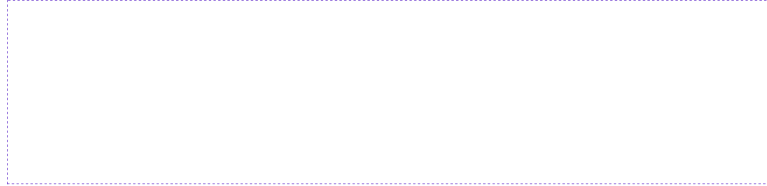
Perforation parallel

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KALOS—September 2009

**Monthly Newsletter for the
Almaden Valley United Church of Christ
6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120**

The deadline for the **October** issue of the Kalos is Tuesday, **September 15**. Email your items to: kalos@avucc.org.

Questions—Contact the editor:
Kelly Yamanishi (997-3373)

Perforation parallel

Perforation parallel

SEPTEMBER 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 7:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM AVUCC Worship 10:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 11:20 AM Elkhorn Slough Safari	31 7:30 PM Boy Scout Troop #294 meeting	1 7:00 PM Christian Ed & Youth Committee Meeting	2	3 8:00 AM ECA Men's Breakfast	4 3:00 PM ECA Montgomery Meals	5
6 7:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM AVUCC Worship 10:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist	7 JV Office Closed	8 7:00 PM AVUCC Council Meeting 7:00 PM ECA Vestry Meeting	9 9:30 AM Quest Meeting 6:45 PM AVUCC Folk Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM AVUCC Worship Committee meeting	10 8:00 AM ECA Men's Breakfast 10:30 AM Thursday Morning Bible Study	11	12 10:00 AM JV Knitting Group
13 9:00 AM AVUCC Worship 11:00 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 12:00 PM ECA Reunion Sunday & BBQ	14 9:00 AM San Jose Assistance League Board meeting 3:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #1227	15 4:15 PM AVUCC Shelter Food Service 7:30 PM JV Board Meeting	16 9:30 AM Quest Meeting 7:30 PM JV Book Club	17 8:00 AM ECA Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM San Jose Assistance League general meeting 10:30 AM Thursday Morning Bible Study 1:15 PM Unicorn Thrift Shop meeting	18 JHYG Dinner & Meeting 3:00 PM ECA Montgomery Meals	19 3:00 PM JV Steak & Stein: Men's Event
20 7:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM AVUCC Worship 10:10 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 1:00 PM Wedding for Bethany Lizana	21	22	23 7:30 PM JV Book Club	24 8:00 AM ECA Men's Breakfast 10:30 AM Thursday Morning Bible Study	25 4:00 PM Chick Flick: Women's Event	26 10:00 AM JV Knitting Group
27 7:30 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 9:00 AM AVUCC Worship 10:10 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM AVUCC Picnic 11:00 AM ECA Holy Eucharist 12:00 PM Church Picnic	28 3:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #1227	29	30	1 8:00 AM ECA Men's Breakfast 10:30 AM Thursday Morning Bible Study	2 JHYG Dinner & Meeting 3:00 PM ECA Montgomery Meals	3 8:00 AM AVUCC Men's Breakfast

-Daily Lectionary- September 2009

These lectionary readings are from A Daily Lectionary-Scripture readings for Every Day based on the New Common Lectionary. Please share this resource with members of your church.

**The readings listed for Sundays are from the UCC Desk Calendar and are not part of the daily lectionary cycle.*

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Epistle</u>
Tues	Sept 1	1Chron 29:1-13	Mark 14:1-9	James 3:1-5
Wed	Sept 2	1 Chron 29:14-25(26-30)	Mark 14:10-16	James 3:6-12
Thurs	Sept 3	2 Chron 20:1-19	Mark 14:17-31	James 3:13-18
Fri	Sept 4	2 Chron 20:20-30	Mark 14:32-42	James 4:1-6
Sat	Sept 5	2 Chron 36:11-23	Mark 14:43-52	James 4:7-12
*Sun	Sept 6	Isa 35:4-7a	Mark 7:24-37	James 2:1-10(11-13)14-17
Mon	Sept 7	Prov 1:1-19	Mark 14:53-65	James 4:13-17
Tues	Sept 8	Prov 1:20-33	Mark 14:66-72	James 5:1-6
Wed	Sept 9	Prov 3:1-12	Mark 15:1-15	James 5:7-12
Thurs	Sept 10	Prov 3:13-26	Mark 15:16-32	James 5:13-20
Fri	Sept 11	Prov 4:1-19	Mark 15:33-39	Phil 1:1-11
Sat	Sept 12	Prov 30:1-20	Mark 15:40-47	Phil 1:12-20
*Sun	Sept 13	Isa 50:4-91a	Mark 8:27-38	James 3:1-12
Mon	Sept 14	Prov 30:21-33	Mark 16:1-8	Phil 1:21-27
Tues	Sept 15	Job 1:1-22	Mark 16:9-20	Phil 1:27-30
Wed	Sept 16	Job 2:1-13	Luke 2:41-52	Phil 2:1-5
Thurs	Sept 17	Job 3:1-26	Luke 3:1-14	Phil 2:6-13
Fri	Sept 18	Job 4:1-6,12-21	Luke 3:15-22	Phil 2:14-18
Sat	Sept 19	Job 4:1,5:1-17(18-27)	Luke 4:1-13	Phil 2:19-30
*Sun	Sept 20	Jer11:18-20	Mark 9:30-37	James 3:13-4:3,7-8a
Mon	Sept 21	Job 6:1-13	Luke 4:14-30	Phil 3:1-7
Tues	Sept 22	Job 6:14-30	Luke 4:31-47	Phil 3:8-11
Wed	Sept 23	Job 7:1-21	Luke 4:38-44	Phil 3:12-21
Thurs	Sept 24	Job 8:1-22	Luke 5:1-11	Phil 4:1-7
Fri	Sept 25	Job 9:1-15	Luke 5:12-26	Phil 4:8-13
Sat	Sept 26	Job 9:16-35	Luke 5:27-39	Phil 4:14-23
*Sun	Sept 27	Est 7:1-6,9-10;9:20-22	Mark 9:38-50	James 5:13-20
Mon	Sept 28	Job 10 :1-22	Luke 6:1-11	Philem 1-14
Tues	Sept 29	Job 11:1-20	Luke 6:12-26	Philem 15-25
Wed	Sept 30	Job 12:1-25	Luke 6:27-38	Heb 1:1-7



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