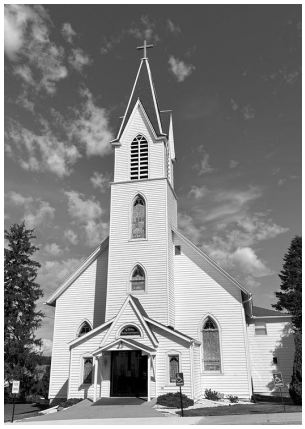


Established 1900

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

208 E. Washington St.
Farmersburg, Iowa 52047
PHONE: 563-536-2800
E-MAIL: stjohn87@neitel.net

307 Church Street
Luana, Iowa 52156
PHONE: 563-539-2321
stjohnluana@neitel.net

Pastor Jeremy Wolfe
pastorjeremywolfe@gmail.com.
563-258-2936



Established 1893

VOLUME 1 OCTOBER 2026 ISSUE 95

In October, we observe two things on Saturday, October 31st. One is holy, and the other is less than. I'll start with the holier option. October 31st is when we celebrate Reformation Day. If you are reading this, then most likely you are Lutheran, but if not, Martin Luther changed all of our lives when he nailed his 95 Theses to the church door. He wasn't trying to start a Reformation, but it ended up being the match on a kindling pile that was ready to blaze. The world changed forever after that, and while the history of that time would have been messy, violent at times, and troublesome, that crucible gave us a rediscovery—the rediscovery of the foundational truths of the Bible. Faith, grace, and trust in the Bible as authority came out of that period, and they are crystallized in the confessions that we still hold dear today.

Whether you are a history person, a scripture person, or neither of the above, I hope that you will think of something on October 31st while the ghouls and goblins roam the streets looking for candy... On Reformation Day, we started to rediscover the beautiful truths of God's word. The simplest and perhaps the most beautiful one? *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves. It is the gift of God"* (Ephesians 2:8).

October 31st is, of course, Halloween, and Christians have different viewpoints on it. I choose to see it as a good excuse to connect with friends and neighbors. The church is reaching out to little ones and parents by participating in town trick or treating on October 31st in Farmersburg. We'll set up outside of the church and our hope is that after they've visited the community center they will come and find us. Also, there is a Trunk or Treat in Luana that the church will take part in on October 24th. More to come on that as we find out, since it's a new event.

If you are interested in helping or participating, reach out to me. Whether you're handing out candy at your front door, joining us at the trunk-or-treat, or simply pausing to give thanks for the heritage of our faith, I pray your October is filled with wonderful neighborhood connections and the undeniable warmth of God's grace.

October is an action packed month because we have the Shepherd of the Hills Hog Roast, The Bless and Ride UTV event, The Harvest Meal so Reformation Day/Halloween is just the exclamation point on a busy month! I am praying that October will be a wonderful harvest of fellowship and joy for all!

Your friend in Christ,

Pastor Jeremy



FARMERSBURG

CHURCH COUNCIL
Pres: Linda Schoulte (26)
V. Pres: Dave Hageman (28)
Sec: Loretta Weipert (26)
Treas: Crystal Goltz (27)
Council Members: Ken Erickson (27), Becky Fuelling (28) & Lindelle Scherf (28)

CHURCH SECRETARY:
Kelly Shaw

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:
Kelly Shaw

OUTSIDE JANITOR:
Loren Scherf

INSIDE JANITOR:
Mary Beth Tielbar

WELCA:
Pres: Shirley Marmann
V. Pres: Velma Kuehl
Sec: Nancy Moon
Treas: Becky Fuelling
Mission Action: Bev Moon, Nancy Moon, Linda Friedlein & Ethel Lenth

MEN'S GROUP:
Pres: Ryan Moon
V. Pres: Brad Hoth
Sec/Treas: Dan Moon

ALTAR GUILD:
Directress: Cheryl Bossard
Sec: Heather Crogan
Treas: Velma Kuehl

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM
Chairperson: Linda Schoulte (26)
Secretary: Vicki Baade (27)
Members: Janelle Smith (28)
Becky Fuelling (28)
Aaron Smith (26)
Amanda Goltz (27)

NEWSLETTER EDITORS;
Cheryl Bossard & Tammy Muller

Church Website:
http://www.stjohn-farmersburg.org

Remember to like St. John Facebook Page.

FARMERSBURG NEWS



THANK YOU to Bill & Michelle Scherf for sharing Altar Flowers for our worship services in honor of their 45th Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations!!



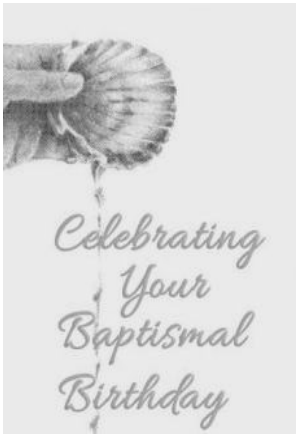
Thank you from the men's group!

Thanks to all who supported our Ice Cream Social and Pork dinner this summer. Thanks also to all who brought food to be served. **A big thanks** to Jason Klinge for the ground beef and to Gordon Peterson for the pork as well as Dave and John for cooking the meats. We look forward to these great events every year not only as a fundraiser, but as a great way to gather for fellowship with our church and community members!



October
2 Jacob & Sara (Meisner) Nehl
15 Chris & Kayla Schmidt
17 Harry & Darcy Gerndt
31 Jeremiah & Ashley Schoenfeldt

October Known Baptisms
2 – Brayden Hoth
3 – Declan Wolfe
4 – Landon Goltz
Josiah L'Dean Scherf
Maverick Lee Palmersheim
Jameson Wayne Palmersheim
17 – Darcy (Kurth) Quamme
18 – Matthew Radloff
20—Mateo William Moran
25—Doug Glawe
William Scherf III
Gary Scherf
27- Bennett John Radloff





Our Sympathy to the family and friends of Jeanette Vogt who passed away on August 21, 2026. Private graveside services were held.

FARMERSBURG NEWS



USHERS

October 4 & October 11
Captain Scott Goltz — Lyn Tielbar
Rod Stagman — Gilbert Brainard

October 18 & October 25
Captain Dave Hageman — Mike Reardon
Matt Golt — Ben Wikner

ACOLYTES

October 4 Scarlett Scherf
October 11 Rylan Hoth
October 18 Annabelle Palmersheim
October 25 Dominic Schoulte

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

October 4 Becky Fuelling
October 18 Crystal Goltz

GREETERS

October 4 Don & Cheryl Bossard
11 Kelly, Ashley & Autumn Shaw
18 Julie Kurth & Valerie Kurth
25 Gilbert & Barb Brainard

ALTAR GUILD

October
Velma Kuehl
Deb Tidwell

Worship Attendance

August
2 Froehlich
9 17
16 54
23 Combined at Luana Park
30 26





SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Shirley Marmann & Velma Kuehl



October
3 Bennett John Radloff
4 Wm. Scherf III
5 Verdean Schlake
7 Mike Reardon
8 Amanda Nelson
9 Ben Schlake
12 Carisa Taylor
14 Eli Byroade
17 Nicholas Thornton
18 Jeff Wiedenman
Lyndean Tielbar
19 Joshua Kluth
Adam Lnenicka
Megan (Glawe) Klink
20 Brian Pate
Chad Taylor
24 Gilbert Brainard
28 Arlo Michael VanHauen
29 Melissa (Fuelling) Wolfe

WELCA Highlights

Upcoming Events: Goodwill Truck in Monona-September 26
SOTH Hog Roast-October 4
Travel Fun Fall Field Trip-October 17
Cluster B Gathering at West Clermont-October 24
Harvest Meal-October 25
LWR Truck in Decorah-November 7
EWALU quilter's luncheon-November 14

WELCA officers will remain the same: President-Shirley Marmann, V.P.- Velma Kuehl, Secretary-Nancy Moon, Treasurer-Becky Fuelling

Thankoffering Service is November 15

Group 1 will decorate the tree in the basement December 2 is the WELCA Christmas Party at 1 PM, after the meeting at noon. Donated money to EWALU.

FARMERSBURG NEWS

St. John Farmersburg Council Minutes
Date: September 13, 2026

Present: Becky Fuelling, Lindelle Scherf, Loretta Weipert, Ken Erickson, Linda Schoulte, Dave Hageman and Jeremy Wolfe. Absent: Crystal Goltz

Meeting called to order by President Linda at 1120. Opening devotions given by Jeremy.

Addition of donation of Resource Room sink. Becky moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Lindelle. Motion carried.
Motion to approve the minutes of 8/16/26 meeting made by Lindelle, second by Becky. Motion carried.
Becky moved to approve the treasurer's report, second by Linda. Motion carried. Linda will check with Crystal to see if talked to Kelly about council questions discussed last month. Linda is going to talk to Kelly to see if it is anticipated that church may be in the red next month. Ken made a motion that If it's needed Kelly can remove $5000 out of 1 of the CDs and put in general checking. Motion second by Dave, motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Updates being discussed during meeting agenda.

Old Business:
*Insurance Updates - Continuing to collect information, will keep the council updated by email until the next council meeting.
*Loose siding: South side and window frame by bell tower. Dan Gingerich plans to repair it. Ken still needs to check with the Men's group to see if can cover the cost.

New Business:
*Resource Room sink - Lyn and Mary Beth Tielbar wish to donate a new sink and faucet for the Resource room. They plan to use money from Devin Tielbar's memorial fund. Ken made a motion for accepting donation, Dave second. Dave volunteered to put the sink in. Council agreed that we should have something near the sink to acknowledge donation, and will discuss further at the next meeting.
*Trunk or Treat - Event will be from 5 to 7 pm. Will discuss further at the next meeting.
*Harvest Meal - Scheduled for October 25. Becky is currently pricing turkey tenders (@Mississippi Meats, The Porch, Luana Tap, Quillins Waukon, & Wilkes Elkader) and will order.
3 Thrivent cards needed, Loretta will find individuals willing to apply. Discussed Walmart Spark Good program for a donation, Kwik Star and Casey's. Loretta will make sign up sheets to pass around for food donations and volunteers. Jeremy will email flyers to everyone if they wish to print to advertise. Will continue discussion at the next meeting.
*AED - table discussion until next month.
*St John Ministry team updates - *Christmas Eve service times *Christmas day meal *Bless & Ride 10/10/26. *Lent schedule. *Jeremy will be doing counseling for NE IA Behavioral Health in Elkader. He is willing to take 75% of synod guidelines as of 2027.

Committee Reports:
Evangelism, Property (discussed above),
Worship, Memorial, Men's Group & Women's Group: No report.
Parish Education - The start of the Parish Ed year 2026-2027.
Stewardship - Consider sending out letters to the congregation.



Motion to adjourn by Linda, second by Becky. Motion carried.
Next meeting 10/11/26 after worship.

Respectively submitted by Loretta Weipert, secretary.

LUANA

CHURCH SECRETARY & FINANCIAL TREAS.: Karla Schrader

CHURCH COUNCIL:
President: Jerry Schroeder (26)
V. Pres: Loren Lenth (27)
Sec: Vicky Baade (27)
Cur. Treas: Cindy Landt (28)
Bene. Treas: Luke Steege (27)
Financial Counters: Council
DEACONS:
Jerry Schroeder (26)
Tim Donlon (26)
Loren Lenth (27)
TRUSTEES:
Heath Landt (26)
Vicky Baade (27)
Luke Steege (27)
Cindy Landt (28)
Linda Davis (28)
Jim Meyer (28)

WELCA:
Leaders:
January—March: Lisa Meyer
April—June: Vicky Baade
July—September: Karla Schrader
October—December: Mel Lenth

ALTAR GUILD:
Pres: Sherri Johnson (26)
Sec: Darci Engelhardt (26)
Lisa Meyer (28)
Diane Kraus (28)
Banners/Linens/Candles:
Mary Schroeder (27)
Special Services/Flowers:
Betty Handke (27)
Bapt./Comm.:
Sherri Johnson
Darci Engelhardt
Seasonal Banners:
Mary Schroeder

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM
Chairperson: Linda Schoulte (26)
Secretary: Vicki Baade (27)
Members: Janelle Smith (28)
Becky Fuelling (28)
Aaron Smith (26)
Amanda Goltz (27)

St. John's Luana website
www.stjohn-luana.org

LUANA NEWS



OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Stan & Dawn Dull

Read Lessons & Prayers:
Oct. 4 Linda Davis
Oct. 11 Mel Lenth
Oct. 18 Luke Steege
Oct. 25 Vicky Baade

Acolyte:
Note Changes:
Oct. 4 Karsten Steege
Oct. 11 Dayne Anderson
Oct. 18 Livia Steege
Oct. 25 Emme Wikner

Communion Servers: Oct. 4 – Tim Donlon & Cindy Landt
Oct. 18 – Jerry Schroeder & Linda Davis

Altar Guild: Diane Kraus

Flowers: Erma Swenson

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

October

9—Mason Baade
14 – Duaine Davis
16—Vicky Baade
17 – James Meyer
25 – Cindy Landt
26 – Duaine Palas

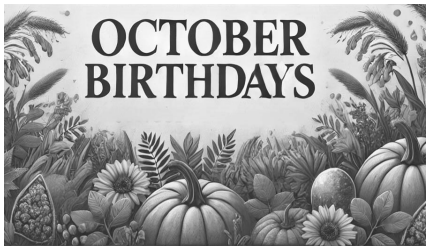




Our Sympathy to the family and friends of Ricky "Rick" Allen Lenth of Luana who passed away August 28, 2026. A Funeral Service was held on September 8, 2026 at St. John Lutheran Church in Luana.

Sympathy to the family and friends of Roger H. "Louie" Landt who passed away September 6th. A celebration of Louie's life was held on September 26th at 1:00 p.m. at Cherry Valley Enterprises in Luana.

LUANA NEWS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2 – David Schultz
12 - Matthew Baade
14 – Ryker Linder
21 - Jerry Schroeder
23 – Karla Schrader
24 – Marj Schrader
Neal Wikner
26 – Duaine Davis

WELCA Meeting
5:00 pm October 22nd.

Women of the ELCA



LUANA COMMUNITY CLUB
TRUNK OR TREAT



SOUP SUPPER,
MINI CORN DOGS &



HOT COCOA BAR



FREE WILL DONATION
10 – 24- 2026
LUANA FIRE STATION
Trunk or Treat 4:00 pm—6:00 pm
Meal 4:00 pm—7:00 pm
Contact Luana Community Club on Facebook by October 14th
If you are interested in participating
In our Trunk or Treat
ALL WELCOME FOR THE MEAL

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	Att.	Comm
Aug. 23	56	50
Aug. 30	30	
Sept. 6	Service at Farmersburg	
Sept. 13	35	
Sept. 20	39	31
	160	**81**





St. John, Luana Council Minutes September 13, 2026

Present were: Pastor Jeremy, Jerry Schroeder, Cindy Landt, Linda Davis, Jim Meyer, Tim Donlon, Loren Lenth and Vicky Baade. Heath Landt, and Luke Steege were absent.

Meeting was called to order by President, Jerry Schroeder.
Pastor led a prayer.
Pastor shared the design for new church t shirts. The sign-up form will be in the narthex until the end of the month.

The application for the other insurance company is finished. A quote will be on the way.

Pastor has earned a Masters of Counseling degree. His plan is to do counseling through Northeast Iowa Behavioral Health's Elkader location as a flexible way to complement pastoring our two congregations. He is willing to change his salary to 75% of Synod guidelines. The Synod and Bishop are ok with this arrangement since it is Jeremy's idea. The council thanked Jeremy for his forward thinking in helping our congregations' budgets.

Luana Community Club is hosting a trunk-or-treat on Saturday, October 24. Pastor and some congregation members are interested in participating as an outreach to local kids and families. Information about Sunday School, PEEPS, and worship times will be included with the treats.

Sunday school starts this morning, so Pastor and Cindy excused themselves to meet the kids and parents.

Vicky read the minutes of the August 9 meeting. Tim moved to accept the minutes, Linda seconded, approved.

The August treasurer's report will be reviewed at our next meeting.

Jerry had a letter from Levson Organ Co including a new agreement to tune the organ each year for $400. We have such a nice organ and maintenance is important. Vicky moved that Jerry sign the new agreement on behalf of the congregation. Jim seconded, approved.

Jerry informed the council that he had invested the proceeds of the parsonage sale. $115,000 is in a 182 day CD at 4.01% and the balance was deposited to the Parsonage Rent/Repair fund (which will probably need a new account title now.)

Jim Meyer and Aaron Smith will investigate if the rope for ringing the bell could be extended so the bell could be rung from the main floor of the church.

The Bless and Ride side-by-side ride is set for October 10. It will leave from our church and stop for lunch at Beulah-land. The route is being planned. Proceeds will be donated to Beulahland Christian Camp.

The Christmas Day meal will be held here at Luana this year. More details will be coming closer to the event.

The Luana Daze worship was successful with approximately 50 people and 4 dogs.

Beulahland offered that we could do a joint worship service there. After some discussion, council expressed that choosing a date in the spring would be best.

Christmas Eve worship will be 7:00pm at Luana and 8:30pm at Farmersburg. This stays the same each year.

The Lenten schedule will be the opposite of last year. Supper will be served from 5pm to 6:15pm with worship at 6:30.

Ash Wednesday/Communion February 10 at Farmersburg w/meal
February 17 at Luana – meal
February 24 at Farmersburg – meal
March 3 at Luana – meal
March 10 at Farmersburg – meal
March 17 at Luana – meal
March 25 Maundy Thursday/Communion at Luana – no meal
March 26 Good Friday at Farmersburg – no meal
March 28 Easter
7:00 Sunrise service/Communion at Farmersburg w/fellowship following
9:00 am Worship/Communion at Luana

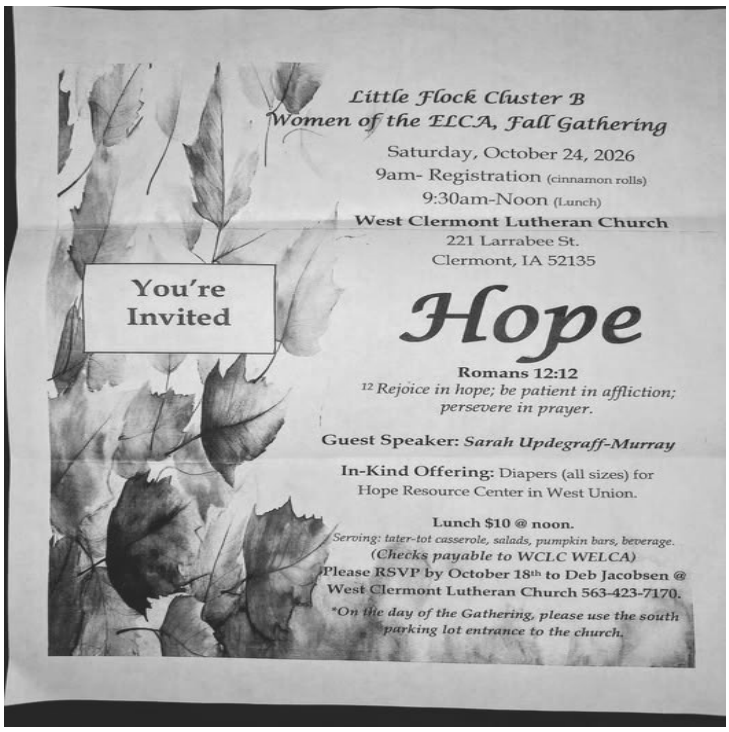
Jerry adjourned the meeting. Members prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be October 11 at 7:30am.

Respectfully submitted by Vicky Baade, Council Secretary

Both Churches News





HARVEST DINNER

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Farmersburg, Iowa

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25
11:30 am—1:00 pm

Serving
Turkey
Mashed Potatoes/Gravy
Corn, Squash, Rolls
Pie
Coffee, Milk & Water
Dine in or Carry Out
Suggested Donation $12.00





Trunk or Treat

October 24 Luana Fire Station
October 31 St. John Lutheran Farmersburg

Travel Fun Fall field trip with NE IA Women of ELCA
October 17, Come Join us on an Adventure.
Exploring Waterloo/ Cedar Falls in Black Hawk County.
WHO: Anyone can come. Bring a friend, spouse, Children and grandchildren RSVP by Oct. 1 (for reservations at Barn Happy)
10 am Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum & Grout Museum of History & Science $15.
Both Museum & Norris Corson Family Planetarium $20.
1 pm Lunch at Barn Happy
2:30 pm Three House Collaborative Campus Ministries

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS : Pharis Martin, Doug Schrader, Trent Bollman, Patty Leeman, Dwain Wolter, Stacy DeSotel, Julie Mohs, Charlie Post, *Mellisa Wolfe, Dallas Tielbar, Shelby Preston, Bram Byroade, Melody Pate, Jim Fuelling, Mike Reardon, Ron Tayek, Cheryl Bossard, Beth Bries, Alan Feldmann, Lisa Berns, Larry Friedlein, John Suhr*

MILITARY: Avrey Smith, *Andrew Rodas & Beth Rodas, Will Schrandt*
ELKADER CARE CENTER: Grace Doerring, *Bill Scherf Jr.*
GARDEN VIEW PLACE: Juanita Mohs, Darlene Moon
GOOD SAMARITAN CENTER WAUKON: *Rita Pritchard*
GOOD SAMARITAN CENTER West Union: Keith Lee
KENSINGTON ASSISTED LIVING: Mary Russett
STONEY BROOK ASSISTED LIVING West Union: Dennis Hanson
TOWER LIVING CENTER: *Lendall Schievelbein*
HOMEBOUND: *Glenda Henkes, Jim Fuelling, Shirley Wagner*

The Power of Prayer

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2026



We would like to extend our sincere thank you to all who supported our annual Hog Roast fundraiser. It takes a village to make it successful. From the donors with the meal, the donors for the silent/quilt auction, the volunteers and everyone who attended or got a carry out. We cannot thank you enough for all of the support!

If you are a Thrivent member, you could apply for a charitable card that will provide $250.00 towards projects for non-profits, like Shepherd of the Hills. If you would like to apply, I can help you get started. If you have questions, please give me a call.

Also, as a Thrivent member with investments, you can allocate your yearly Choice Dollars to Shepherd of the Hills. Last year, gracious members collectively donated $2,898 through Choice Dollars. We are so blessed to have generous people with big hearts that help us help others. It is tough doing it alone, but if we come together, great things can be possible.

Clothing Center Updates:

We have switched the store to fall and winter items. We will no longer accept items that are not within the current season. Please wait till March to donate spring and summer items. We are still looking for a couple volunteers that would like to join our volunteer team. Only 1 day a week and you get to pick your own schedule. Hours are from 9am to noon and 1pm-4pm. Responsibilities would be sorting through donations, hanging up clothing and assisting shoppers when they visit. We value all of our volunteers and thrive to make our Thrift Store an organized, clean and respectable place to visit. Our volunteers are the heart of helping people in need and helping the public shoppers find some great deals.

Everyone is welcome to shop as we are open to the public.

Shepherd Conference News:

We have 2 ordination anniversaries to recognize this month. Pastor Lyn Noel of St. Paul Lutheran in Postville celebrating 13 years on 10/20/2013. Pastor Kate Johnson at Bethany Lutheran in Elkader and Emanuel Lutheran in Strawberry Point, celebrating 12 years on 10/19/2014. Congratulations and God's Blessings to Pastor Lyn and Pastor Kate.

The **Operating Fund** pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies, salaries and Lawn/Snow Care.

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities and our sponsored events throughout the year

Please utilize the **MEMO LINE** on your check to specify Crisis or Operating Fund!

Please indicate what church you are from as well to provide better bookkeeping.

IMPORTANT EVENTS/DATES:

Annual Hog Roast Fundraiser
October 4th 4:00pm to 7:00 pm
Silent auction ends at 6:00 pm

Christmas for Kids
December 16th-17th

A Formal Affair-
Formal Consignment Sale
January 14-17

***Any event may be subject to change**

Shepherd of the Hills:

Heather Hageman
100 W. Hill Street, PO Box 36,
St. Olaf, IA 52072
Telephone: 563-783-2409
Fax: 563-783-2428
E-mail: shephill@neitel.net

Business Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm



FALL WORDSEARCH



O T V Q A M S T S C A R F X M
H A Y R I D E W B B C O R N K
J F P U M P K I N U H T G K Z
H O R C H A R D T V C B E I P
F H Q F D U H O Q B I M L P L
Q R W U A T P S U O V M N N M
Q E X O U U U E I N E Z E N U
U T O M M M O R L F B N D E O
V A C T U N S O T I C L L D R
Y E T J A N C M P R O W O W A
R W O S F S M S I E Z Q G Z N
E S B L O O O K V O Y X C P G
D P E K S D T S E V R A H Q E
A A R V H Y L L I H C V A A P
U D J L Y S E V A E L H P V A

WORD LIST

AUTUMN
BONFIRE
CHILLY
CORN
COZY
GOLDEN
HARVEST
HAYRIDE
LEAVES
OCTOBER
ORANGE
ORCHARD
PIE
PUMPKIN
QUILT
RED
SCARF
SMORES
SOUP
SWEATER

Homemade
GIFTS MADE EASY