

ELCA GLOBAL MISSIONS

SEPTEMBER MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT



Rev. Dr. Mark Rich and
Rev. Dr. Cynthia Holder Rich,
Missionaries in Tanzania (ELCT)

Pastor Mark Rich and Pastor Cynthia Holder Rich serve as Lecturers in Theology at Tumaini University Makumira, the largest Lutheran theological school on the African continent, preparing leaders at the Bachelor's Master's and Doctoral levels for service in the Church. Pastor Mark is an ELCA

clergy [he is a member of First Lutheran!] and Pr. Cynthia is a pastor of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Both serve as missionaries of the ELCA Global Missions. Pastor Chris commissioned them last year in Lima. The following are responses from Pr. Mark:

- 1. What do you do at Tumaini University?** I teach courses in Systematic Theology, Ethics, Missiology, and New Testament. Cynthia teaches courses in Theology, Ethics, Missiology, Gender and the Bible, and Research Methodologies. We teach in both Bachelor of Divinity and Masters degrees. Our students are both pastors and laypeople, nearly all of them Lutheran, most of them from Tanzania, some of them from other countries in Africa. In the bachelors program about 20% are women; in the masters program about half are women. Many of our students either are or will become pastors. Here in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (elct.org), you can be ordained with certificate training short of a bachelor's degree. Others will be teachers in the church at various levels. We have a four-year contract with the ELCA to serve in the ELCT; we hope to serve here for eight to ten years - and we've already got one year under our belts!
- 2. How are you supported?** The ELCA supports us with salaries, benefits, and supervision from Chicago staff. We have several supporting congregations, but we need many more (the ELCA expects its missionaries to recruit enough supporting congregations to cover their own costs.). The ELCA also does a lot to support many ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania as the ELCT has the most companion synod relationships with the US of any other church within the Lutheran World Federation. I don't actually know all that the ELCA does here in Tanzania, but I know it includes a considerable amount of medical work, particularly through Arusha Lutheran Medical Center (<http://almec.or.tz/>) and Selian Hospital, and educational work, including the Tumaini University system and Iringa University. The Northwestern Ohio Synod is a companion synod of Dodoma Diocese of the ELCT, and the synod contributes to four scholarships for students here at Makumira, as well as schools within the Dodoma Diocese (<http://nwos-elca.church/mission/global/>).
- 3. What are some of your needs at the University?** Two things: we need to provide our students with new NRSV study Bibles. Second, the university is beginning a project to develop and build a physics/chemistry/biology lab for our Bachelor of Education in Science program. The latter will obviously cost more than the former!

The ELCA walks with more than 80 companion churches in other countries to participate in God's reconciling mission through proclamation and service. The ELCA supports 223 personnel in 49 countries. Over the past three years, Global Mission has sent 130 new missionaries (not including the Young Adults in Global Mission) into service as teachers, health-care workers, Horizon interns, pastors, professors and more. Ninety-three young adults have recently accepted the call to serve as Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers in 11 country programs serving in 13 different countries. The budget of Global Missions is over \$40,000,000 per year, almost half of the entire ELCA budget! First does not budget for global missions, but we do support the work of the ELCA through our mission support (we have budgeted \$36,400 for mission support in 2018). The NWO Synod sends 51% of all offerings to the ELCA.

*Perhaps we can become a **supporting congregation** for the work that the Richs are doing in Tanzania!*



Epic Youth

All youth grades 6-12 are welcome to attend EPIC on Sunday nights from 6-7:30 at First Lutheran beginning Sept 9!

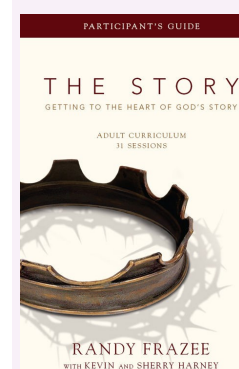
On Sept. 23rd, all youth grades 6-12 and their families are invited to a cookout and backyard games at the Welte home from 5-8pm.

Welte's address is [12179 County Road 109, Findlay](#). Meat and drinks will be provided. Please bring lawn chairs and a dish to share.



Come join us for Sunday School starting Sept 9th at 9:30. All are invited ages 4 through adults. Ages 4 through 5th graders will study Bible stories, 6th through 12th grade to be announced later.

We are in need of one or two teachers for the 6th through 12 grade class. Please pray about this and join this wonderful group of young people to help them strengthen their faith through their studies and fellowship. If you are interested or have questions, please call Sally Rice at 419-424-0685.



The Story video curriculum will open your eyes to God's master-plan unfolding in the lives of the Bible's characters - and in your own life. Discover the heart of God's Upper Story, and the joy that comes as you align your story with God's.

Please join Pastor Bob for our Adult Sunday School class beginning on September 9th at 9:30am.



A BIG thank you to our volunteers who helped make our Vacation Bible School fun! Thanks to Heather & Christian Nielson, Julie Buck, Kristen Johnson, Mary Lou McCann, Ali Lilly & Lisa Cox, Samantha Franks, Casey & Nathan Leipheimer, and Zachary McRill. We enjoyed singing, hearing cool bible stories, making blankets for Project Linus, and painting rocks. We ended with a program for the families.



Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:6

Prayer Ministry



A special thanks to Thrivent Financial for support of our two **Taize** services, the second of which will be **Tuesday September 18 at 7 p.m.** in the nave. If you missed the August service, take time to join us in this quiet worship hour. It will be filled with candlelight, music, scripture, and time for your prayers.

Also, new prayer study groups are forming! Some may meet during the Sunday School hour, others at different times so you can be a part of The Story, Pr. Bob's adult SS class beginning September 9. Watch for memo's in the bulletins about the prayer study *Grounded in Prayer*, based on the parable of the sower.

This has been an integral part of our participation in the ELCA Year of Prayer and a meaningful way to deepen our prayer lives. It is a 6-week commitment, and the time flies by! We hope you will prayerfully consider joining us. Questions???? Please call Jane Ebersole at 419-422-9640.

Good News Garden A Feast for the senses!

As the tomatoes come on in Biblical proportions (we picked 12 tomatoes from one plant last week!!), a big thank you to Janet Wobser, Robin Bowman, the Ebersoles, and the Bryants (Jerry's taste and hard work have made this year happen!), who have cooked, watered, staked, weeded, and harvested. We will continue to give out the overflow of produce at services while preparing a soup base of tomatoes and zucchini for our October Community Dinner. Please note all the lovely blooms on the perennial side...a riot of color! God's design is amazing!



Social Ministry



Save the date, October 25th, for the **Red Cross Blood Mobile**. Your donation of a pint of blood can save another person. Please consider signing up for this Red Cross visit. It would only take 1 1/2 hr of your day to be a donor. Plus, you would receive some good food for donating!

First Lutheran will be celebrating the annual ELCA's "**God's Work. Our Hands**" with the Community Dinner on Sept. 2 and also the Habitat Build on Sept. 24th and 25th. These 2 projects join with other ELCA congregations in areas for Social Awareness - feeding the hungry, offering help to homeless, and many other areas.



Thank you to all those who saved Box Tops over the summer. We collect these in a box in the 2nd drawer on the left entering the kitchenette. Any of the Tops are appreciated and then given to Lincoln School for their use. The Tops aren't always easy to find on a product, check bottom, sides and tops, cut them out and place in the box in the drawer.



ONCE AGAIN WE ARE HELPING BUILD A HOUSE

As in the past, we have an opportunity to assist Habitat for Humanity in making housing affordable in our community. Our original plan has been expanded somewhat. Because Thrivent and some additional congregations are being invited to help, we can now work on either or both of the following days: Monday, Sept. 24 and Tuesday, Sept. 25. Two shifts each day...8am-Noon and 1pm-5pm are available. Instead of building a new house this year, we will be framing walls to be used in next June's house.

Our work will take place inside the new Habitat building at 1200 Commerce Parkway. So we will be nailing together 2x4's each day. Hammers and instructions will be provided. The walls will then be used for a dedication ceremony for the new Habitat building and then moved to the June, 2019 house location next summer. I

f you can help with light breakfast and/or lunch each day, call Mary Lou McCann at 419-348-6164. To volunteer for the construction, call Mike Thompson at 419-422-2832 or sign the volunteer form on the church hallway bulletin board. Thanks for your prayerful consideration of this ministry opportunity.



worship times

We return to
8:15 & 10:45
worship services on
September 2nd.



Julie Buck: Jabuck67@frontier.com

Cindy Fitzpatrick: cbrenfitz@aol.com

Greg Johnson: GregJohnson05@yahoo.com

Aaron Ried: Ried1024@aol.com

Wendy Short: Jshort@bright.net

Alex Treece: AlexTreece@yahoo.com

Casey Cox: CaseyCox72@gmail.com

Tim Franks: TFranks75 @Hotmail.com

Cynthia Napier: NapierCynthia222@yahoo.com

Daryl Rotman: Rotman4@aol.com

Renee Smith: RSmith0709@att.net

Jenny Welte: JBWelte@frontier.com

Church Library

Well, good day to everyone. Spent a wonderful week not too long ago with 5 of our children for a week. Oh my goodness, did we ever have fun, laughed and played and then sighed heavily when we had to take them home.

While compiling the list of America's 100 favorite works of fiction, PBS finds "that literary quality has nothing to do with America's choices...Americans read for the story...We want to know what happened... Our book choices also show a great hunger for the grand mythic narrative...Our books reflect a longing for sermons and fighting against evil."

Whether the next bit is true or false, I found it interesting. The story goes "A prisoner, condemned to solitary confinement, obtained a copy of the Bible and by three years of careful study, obtained the following facts:

The Bible contains 3,586,489 letters, 773,692 words, 31,173 verses 1189 Chapters and 66 books.

The word "and" occurs 46,277 times.

The word "Lord" occurs 1855 times.

The word "Reverend" occurs but once: Psalm 111:9.

The middle verse is Psalm 118:8.

The 7th chapter of Ezra contains all the letters in the alphabet except the letter J.

The finest chapter to read is Acts 26.

The 19th chapter of II Kings and Isaiah 37 are alike.

The longest verse is Esther 8:9.

The shortest verse is John 11:35.

The 8th, 15th, 21st, and 31st verses of Psalm 107 are alike.

Each verse of the 136th Psalm end alike.

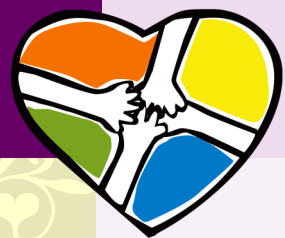
In the Bible there are no words or names of more than six syllables."

So what follows is info I ran into, looking for something else:

- Research suggests that those who consume 8 to 12 glasses of water each day burn more calories than those who consume 4. Research also suggests an extra 4 to 7 calories are burned for every cup of **cold** water consumed.
- Dial down your paper towel habit. Blot moisture from produce with lightweight cotton or linen kitchen towels. Reserve them for jobs like patting vegetables dry, wrapping and storing herbs, keeping leafy greens moist in the crisper bin, and cleaning mushrooms. The towels are inexpensive and wash and dry quickly. Paper towels are more hygienic for patting dry raw steaks and chicken.
- Marinate foods in shallow glass or ceramic dishes instead of plastic bags.
- Keep the oven door closed...every time you open the door, the oven temp drops by as much as 50 degrees Fahrenheit. (Where is the degree button on a computer?)
- 80% of the world's oxygen is produced by our oceans. And by 2050, unless we take action, there could be more plastic than fish swimming in them.
- Make dining with friends and family more of a priority. Anne Lamott, the novelist and non-fiction writer, also suggests "make each meal as if you are inviting your pastor over for lunch or dinner...use the pretty dishes, and arrange wonderful foods on the plates."
- When all else fails in our busy lives – laugh. Nothing heals like laughter.....or ice cream.

And, *finally*, "Bill had a billboard. Bill also had a board bill. The board bill bored Bill so that Bill sold the billboard to pay his board bill. So after Bill sold his billboard to pay his board bill the board bill no longer bored Bill."

God bless and keep reading. Kathy Brooks (Kbrooks@Lrbcg.com)



Sharing and Caring

Flower deliverers:

Thank you for thinking of us and delivering the beautiful altar flower arrangement Sunday. May God's blessings overflow to all of you.

Harvey and Gladys Feustel, Birchaven



Baptism

Baptized ...on August 26...

...Lawson Baden Gerdeman, born to Brandon and Kristi Gerdeman on May 30, 2018. Brandon joins big sister, Lyla, at home.



Our Christian Sympathies are extended to the family of ...Virginia Weber, who entered the Church Triumphant on August 18th. Pastor Bob presided over her funeral in Toledo on August 29th.

How Do We Care For Each Other?

How can we be better in our care for each other?

By Communication! Please let the church office or a pastor know about a change in your life, such as a hospitalization, being confined to a home, even temporarily, the death of a loved one, etc.

If you notice the absence of a brother or sister from worship, leave a note on the back of your yellow "Footprints" or call the church office or pastor. Our pastors are prepared to support you in times of change and adjustment.

NewsLetter DEADLine

Monday.

September 18th

Food Cart Requests



Kleenex, laundry soap, boxed side dishes

All donations benefit

Lutheran Social Services.

September's Noisy Offering benefits

**Clothe-A-Child
of Ohio, Inc.**

.....to provide clothing for
underprivileged children
primarily located in
Northwest Ohio

Women of the ELCA

Sept. TBA—Rummage Sale

Committee Meeting

Sept. 24—Cookie Sunday—Martha Circle

The fall Rummage Sale is October 19th and 20th. You may start bringing your "gently used" items and place them in the Rummage Sale room. Please NO TV's. For more information, please contact Mary Lou McCann at 419-423-2226.

The Habitat for Humanity Thrivent Build

will be September 24th and 25th. We will be providing a simple breakfast and lunch both days. Meals will be indoors at 1200 Commerce Parkway in the new Restore building. Hospitality workers will be needed both days 7:00am to 8:30am and 11:30 am to 1:00pm. The beginning of September a sign-up sheet will be posted. For more information contact Mary Lou McCann at 419-423-2226.

OWLS TO SEE "HUMANS OF FINDLAY"

OWLS

Older,
Wiser,
Lutherans



On Tuesday, September 25th, Dave Morrow, documentary photographer, will present the program, "HUMANS OF FINDLAY." What started out as a lonely man in search of knowing his neighbors and taking a page from HUMANS OF NEW YORK, blossomed into a four-year project that resulted in over 630 interviews, a book (Vol.1) with another book on the way, and a

community that is much closer together. The project brought all facets of society together in celebrating the city's diversity.

Mr. Morrow will speak and show his pictures at 6:00pm, following a potluck supper at 5:00. Please bring a covered dish and your own table service. If you need a ride, call Carol Bridinger (419-425-9104) by the 24th.

Senior Pastor: Bob Cochran: flcpastor@hotmail.com 419-788-0803

Assisting Minister: Chris Dittmar: cdit668995@aol.com

Administrative Assistant: Nina Dukes (419-422-2638)

Office Hours- M-TH, 8:30-3:00; Fri, 8:30-12:00 flcFindlay@gmail.com

Building Manager: Wayne Dukes (419-306-3358 emergency only) Wayne Dukes@hotmail.com

Assistant Building Manager: Joshua Leopold

Organist: Miriam Gibson

Sr. Choir Director: Jane Eakin

Brass Ensemble Director: Diane Adler

Kids Kingdom Directors: Sally Rice, Heather Nielsen, Jenny Welte

Treasurer: Tom Basinger

Financial Secretary: Daryl Rotman

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:15 & 10:45 Worship	Office Closed	11:30am Pastors Lunch		4pm Riehm Farm Truck	9:30am Bulletin	4:30Fox/Hammer Wedding
11:30am Community Dinner	10:30am Ladies Bible Study	7pm Book Club		4:30pm Organ Rehearsal	Assembly	
	7pm Stewardship/Evangelism				5:30pm Fox/Hammer Rehearsal & Dinner	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Noisy Offering	10:30am Ladies Bible Study	9am Martha Circle	7pm Confirmation Parents & Students	4pm Riehm Farm Truck	9:30am Bulletin	
8:15 & 10:45 Worship		9:30am Rachel Circle		4:30pm Organ	Assembly	
9:30am Sunday School	6:30pm Worship & Music	7:30pm Finance	7pm Endowment	Rehearsal		
11:45am Youth Committee			8pm Theology Pub			
6pm EPIC Youth	7pm Property					
	7pm Social Ministry					
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:15 & 10:45 Worship	Newsletter Deadline	1:30pm Staff Meeting	7pm Confirmation	4pm Riehm Farm Truck	9:30am Bulletin	Pastors Vacation
9:30am Sunday School	10:30am Ladies Bible Study	7pm Taize Prayer Service		4:30pm Organ Rehearsal	Assembly	
6pm EPIC Youth	7pm Council					
	7pm Hannah Circle					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Pastors Vacation	Pastors Vacation	Pastors Vacation	Pastors Vacation	Pastors Vacation	Pastors Vacation	
8:15 & 10:45 Worship	10:30am Ladies Bible Study	5pm OWLS	7pm Confirmation	4pm Riehm Farm Truck	9:30am Bulletin	
9:30am Sunday School	Bible Study			4:30pm Organ Rehearsal	Assembly	
5pm EPIC Youth Cookout						
30						
8:15 & 10:45 Worship						
9:30am Sunday School						
6pm EPIC Youth						

2018

September

September Volunteers

DRIVERS
 Sept. 2-Jerry Bryant
 Sept. 9-Mike Zawisza
 Sept. 16-Aaron Ried
 Sept. 23-Pam Cochran

LECTORS
 Sept. 2
 8:15-Jenny Welte
 10:45-Julie Buck
 Sept. 9
 8:15-Keff Kamm
 10:45-Acolytes
 Sept. 16
 8:15-Marilynn Dunn
 10:45-Cindy Fitzpatrick
 Sept. 23
 8:15-Tad Schell
 10:45-Tricia Cox
 Sept. 30
 8:15-Shirley Gerber
 10:45-Rob Leipheimer

GREETERS
 Sept. 2
 8:15-Jenny & Karissa Welte
 10:45- Randy & Julie Buck
 Sept. 9
 8:15-Jeff & Jennifer Kamm
 10:45-Kids of the Kingdom
 Sept. 16
 8:15-Cloyce & Janet Baker
 10:45-Cindy Fitzpatrick
 Sept. 23
 8:15-Dave & Janet Wobser
 10:45-Karen Rose
 Sept. 30
 8:15-Dave & Shirley Gerber
 10:45-Leipheimer Family

ACOLYTES
 Sept. 2
 8:15 Parents, please email Pastor Bob
 10:45
 Sept. 9
 8:15-Seth Franks
 10:45-Zach McRill, Nathan Leipheimer
 Sept. 16
 8:15
 10:45
 Sept. 23
 8:15
 10:45
 Sept. 30
 8:15
 10:45

SOUND ROOM
 Sept. 2
 8:15-Tim Roth
 10:45-Todd Thompson
 Sept. 9
 8:15-Dave Gerber
 10:45-Alex Treece
 Sept. 16
 8:15-Tim Roth
 10:45-Jerry Bryant
 Sept. 23
 8:15-Sam Ried
 10:45-Alex Treece
 Sept. 30
 8:15-Tim Roth
 10:45-Todd Thompson

ALTAR FLOWERS
 Sept. 2-Craig/Beth Meier
 Sept. 9-Carolyn/Jerry Bryant
 Sept. 16-Dave/Janet Wobser
 Sept. 23-Marilynn Dunn
 Sept 30-Bob/Pat Stacy
 Forms for your bulletin announcement are available on the bulletin board and at 1stLutheranChurch.org.
 Flowers need to be delivered to the church by noon on Friday.

DEACONS:
 Steve Roth, Tom Mitchell, Tad Schell, Jerry Bryant, Daryl Rotman, Greg Johnson

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS 8:15/10:45
 Sept. 2-Pam Cochran (both)
 Sept. 9-_____/Traci Roth
 Sept. 16-Daryl Rotman (both)
 Sept. 23-Tim Cochran (both)
 Sept 30-Daryl Rotman (both)

8:15 USHERS:
 Dave Wobser
 Jim Schoerger
 Ken Bahler
 Nick Thomas
 Aaron Ried

ALTAR GUILD
 Dave/Shirley Gerber
 Elaine Timbrook
COUNTERS
 Tom & Cindy Fitzpatrick
LSS DELIVERY
 Carolyn Wilde
FLOWER DELIVERY
 Martha Schmidt
COMMUNION BREAD
 Sept. 2- Suzanne Kirk
 Sept. 9- Jane Ebersole
 Sept. 16- Sharon Thompson
 Sept. 23- Pat Needles
 Sept 30- Karen Rose
FOOD FOR THOUGHT
 Sept. 2/9- Bob & Arlene Schriener
 Sept. 16/23- Martha Schmidt
 Sept 30- Bev Yammine
COOKIE SUNDAY
 Sept. 2- Community Dinner
 Sept. 9- Youth
 Sept. 16- Christian Education
 Sept. 23- Council
 Sept 30- Rachel Circle

Celebrations

Birthdays

Tricia Cox	9/1	Alan Hartzell	9/12	Samantha Franks	9/21
Peggy Fruchey	9/1	Kimberly Fultz	9/16	Doris Staschiak	9/21
Matthew Holbach	9/1	Sidney Hoover	9/16	Lisa Cox	9/22
Daphne Maag	9/2	Sharon Thompson	9/16	Jace Wartgow	9/22
Rylie Reed Needles	9/2	Jane Wobser	9/16	Alexandria Johnson	9/23
Tad Schell	9/3	Abbey Haudenschild	9/17	Shirley Phillips	9/23
Evan Pitt	9/5	Jordan Spoon	9/17	Jeff Kamm	9/27
Kristen Buck	9/6	Dawn Wagner	9/18	Jeff Haudenschild	9/28
Martha Schmidt	9/6	Brian Fruchey	9/19	Michael Thompson	9/28
Mike Waltermeyer	9/6	Blaine Peters	9/19	Debra McMillen	9/29
O. Ruth Meyer	9/8	Douglas Schriener	9/19	Timothy Whitehead	9/29
Shelby Bower	9/9	Scott Schriener	9/19	Marilynn Dunn	9/30
Carolyn Bryant	9/9	James Clayton Sr.	9/20	Lindsay Elchert	9/30
Makenzie Tatum	9/9	Margaret Maag	9/20	Suzanne Kirk	9/30
Cynthia Rotman	9/11	Sally Rice	9/20	Mary Lou McCann	9/30
Elaine Timbrook	9/11	Robert Stacy	9/20		

Baptisms

Michael Baxter	9/1	Randall Eakin	9/20	Madison Kutschbach	9/25
Carolyn Howe	9/1	Bethany Rice	9/20	Steven Rice	9/25
Anthony Sherman	9/8	Devra Hall	9/21	Peggy Fruchey	9/27
Carol Peters	9/13	Jerold Bosse	9/22	Mitchell Routson	9/27
Elyse Clark	9/14	Lily Cox	9/22	Nathan Routson	9/27
Emily Clark	9/14	Lori Cox	9/22	Noah Routson	9/27
Andy Hartzell	9/14	Lisa Cox	9/23	Jessica Spoon	9/27
Jason Bower	9/16	Shirley Gerber	9/23	Clyde Mitchell	9/29
Sue Baxter	9/17	Riley Biggs	9/24	SilverLyn Roth	9/29
Crystal Clark	9/19	Beverly Yammine	9/24		

Aniversaries

Craig & Beth Meier	9/3/1994	24	David & Janet Wobser	9/16/1989	29
Steve & Traci Roth	9/3/1994	24	Gary & Virginia May	9/17/1987	31
Michael & Sue Baxter	9/5/1970	48	Tim & Dawn Franks	9/19/1998	20
Jeffrey & Wendy Short	9/7/1991	27	Gary & Debra McMillen	9/20/1968	50
Jerry & Carolyn Bryant	9/11/1965	53	Rob & Amber Leipheimer	9/21/2002	16
Robert & Arlene Schriener	9/11/1982	36	Robert & Patricia Stacy	9/23/1950	68
Robert & Kristina Rodman	9/14/2002	16	Mike & Chris Zawisza	9/26/1998	20



109 E. Lincoln Street
Findlay, OH 45840

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ORGANIZATION
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Current Resident or:



Mailed around
August 28th

First News

September 2018