PARADISE LIFE SEPTEMBER, 2024



S	M	Т	W	Т	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Dylan Trithart	Adam Walker	Isaac Pifer		*George & Chelsea	*Brad & Ruth	
	James Laughman	Cody Reinsel	1	Alexander	Pifer	
		Elliot Reinsel		Andrew Pifer	*Fred & Renee	
					Reed	1
k.					Joyce London	
		FHF Meeting 7 pm			Amanda Perry	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Doug London		Alyssa Bittner	Wanda Laughman	*Larry & Carol	Stephanie Walker	
				Shields		
		Chair 7				1
15	16	Choir - 7 pm	Consistory - 7 pm		100	
Quentin Haag	*Scott & Amy	17	18 *Jeff & Gail Pifer	19	20	21
Quentin maag	Trithart	Annette Roy Briar Barr	Jeff & Gall Pifer		*John & Linda Blosh	1
	Tittlart	Dildi ball				
					*Jason & Tracy Weber	
			Pastor Farewell		Brandon Douthit	
		Choir - 7 pm	Dinner - 6 pm		Betty Dickey	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Bob Burkett	Don Keller	*Jason & Holli		*Mike & Diane	*Kevin & Linda	*Bob & Patty
Bob Reinsel	Cody Pifer	Polito		Carlson	Muth	Burkett
		Danielle Askey				Richard Dickey
		Brett Hollopeter				, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
						Feeding His Flock
		Choir - 7 pm				4:45 - 6:00 pm
29	30					in the tree pin
	*Alex & Erica					1
	States					
STATE STATE OF THE						
Harvest Home						

The Annual Baby Bottle Campaign to benefit the We Care Pregnancy Center will be held during the month of September. Monetary donations can be marked in the "Special Fund" section of your offering envelope. New baby items may be placed in the cradle in the sanctuary.

Psalm 67:5-7

May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you. The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us.

May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.

Monthly Report July, 2024

		_	Current	Benevol.	Mission	Other	7
		6/30/2024	31,119.94	1,905.00	541.43	1,335.40	34,5
	<u>Offering</u>						
	7/7/2024		1,624.00	300.00	75.00	35.00	2,034,0
	7/14/2024		1,410.00	520.00	320.00	125.00	2,375.00
	7/21/2024		1,320.00	110.00	150.00	25.00	1,605.00
	7/28/2024		1,800.00	475.00	120.00	35.00	2,430.00
		_	6,154.00	1,405.00	665.00	220.00	8,444.00
	<u>Other</u>		100.00 100.000.0000 CO				
	Troutville Share						0.00
	Memorials		110.00				110.00
	Investment Interest		413.00				413.00
	Interest		0.33				0.33
		_	523.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	523.33
	Expenses						
EFT	Department of the Treasury		1,011.16				1,011.16
EFT	PA Department of Revenue		164.69				164.69
EFT	Berkheimer Associates		121.20				121.20
EFT	Pension Boards		1,370.50				1,370.50
7320) Larry Shepler		344.30				344.30
	Larry Shepler - supplies		23.04				23.04
	2 Verizon		83.42				83.42
7323	3 Unilec		167.85				167.85
7324	Wolff Refuse		49.50				49.50
7325	5 Cru				400.00		400.00
7326	Moving Mountains				200.00		200.00
	Living Thunder				50.00		50.00
7328	Penn West Conference			1,170.00			1,170.00
7329	Brenda Weber		325.00				325.00
7330	Donna Jarrell		1,420.00				1,420.00
7331	1 Tom Douthit - Towel rolls		44.73				44.73
7332	2 Donna Jarrell		1,420.00				1,420.00
7333	B Highmark		703.10				703.10
	Cemetery Association					610.00	610.00
	Branchh					270.00	270.00
		-	7,248.49	1,170.00	650.00	880.00	9,948.49
	Balance 7/31/24		30,548.78	2,140.00	556.43	675.40	33,920.61

Feeding His Flock 417.00 Bereavement 258.40 675.40

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HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?

Pastor Donna opened with prayer.

Those in attendance were: Pastor Donna, Linda Blosh, Diane Carlson, Brenda Weber, Dean Reed, Bob Roy, Karen Villella, and Samuel Shepler via phone.

Minutes and Treasures reports were read and approved.

Old Business: Fuel tank is still not in yet but was assured before winter it will be done. Restroom signs are up downstairs. Yellow tape was put on floor on off set by the ladies room so it is seen better.

New Business: Discussion on moving forward was discussed. We are going to keep all existing activities in place for now. Pastor Donna's last day will be September 29th. We have some people stepping up to fill some empty spots. Lisa Triponey was at the meeting to update us on meeting at her place. Laybn Hollis has agreed to help transition the choir ,first practice will be September 10th other music and specials were discussed at Lisa's also. We will have a Paradise life Lori and Brenda have volunteered to do it. Annette has volunteered to do the shoe boxes at Christmas time. Holli sent e mail to search committee they do not have any applications for a minister so they are probably going to update their profile. We would like people to step up to help with committees and any new ideas would greatly be appreciated. We will still be operating under the UCC until we give a leave date which will be awhile.

We need to get all the legalities in order first. We feel we need to get a lawyer so things are done correctly. It will take some time to get all these things done. We hope the congregation will bare with us as we transition to an Independent status. And above all keep praying for our church and the members as we go along.

Next meeting is September 11, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by: Karen Villella

Paradise Monthly Notable Notes

August 2024

Consistory Thank You:

We, the Consistory, would like to thank all those on our research committee for taking their time and effort researching our different options concerning our possible split from the UCC.

This has not been an easy process.

Thank you for all the hours you put into this to inform the congregation on the different options, which was the goal of the consistory

We wanted the congregation to be well informed before any decision could be made.

On August 18, 2024, Josie Mae Reed was baptized during the worship service surrounded by four generations of her family and in front of a congregation of witnesses. Congratulations, Josie and family. May God's love and grace surround you, fill you and grow with you.



- Altar Flowers for the month of August were provided and produced by Ann Weber.
- ❖ St. Paul's Auxiliary Our auction was reported with a total of \$317.00. This was sent to the Auxiliary of St. Paul's in Greenville. Then after the check was in the mail, we had a donation of \$200.00, so this was also mailed. Our total from our White Elephant Sale was \$517.00. We have already received a thank you for both donations.

PARADISE UCC AND THE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation was organized of Reformed and Lutheran people in 1827 by the Rev. John Althouse, a Reformed Circuit Rider Minister and they met in a local barn. A hewn log church was built in 1842, called the Union Church near where Strouse's Store was located. Due to the great distance to travel it seemed more convenient to hold Sunday School for both Lutheran and Reformed in the old Bonnett School House, very near the Reformed Church. The group separated in 1873 when the Lutheran congregation built a church; and the Reformed congregation built a church on the present location in 1875, on ground donated by Jonas Pifer. The building cost \$3,000 and a basement was dug underneath it in approximately 1922.

June 25, 1967 the Evangelical and Reformed Churches united with the Congregational Christian Churches to form the United Church of Christ. The church was remodeled in February, 1960, costing \$11,000.

The Rev. Barry Fillman became our Pastor September, 1968 and retired in 2009. In April, 1972, the Paradise Lutheran Church and the Paradise United Church of Christ both dissolved and formed a new church called the Paradise Community United Church of Christ. An addition doubling the church size and costing \$45,000 was done in 1977. A new roof was added in 2019 at a cost of \$18,450. The bell was taken from the Lutheran Church and installed at the United Church of Christ and it still rings before church every week.

LUTHERAN CHURCH IS NOW CALLED THE YOUTH CENTER

The summer of 2024 a new roof was put on the Youth Center at a cost of \$16,200. It was in very poor condition and we had lots of dead birds inside any time we had to clean it. Not fun to pick them up!

Suddenly as we were driving by the Youth Center we were shocked to see someone had painted the foundation, some doors, the side porch and the old church looks beautiful. It is so nice to see an old Church looking great. The main event that we hold in the building is the Bethlehem Walk every other year. Then the questions began "who painted this?". We finally got it figured out that Gary Fillhart painted it and he also painted some of the foundation & steps at the Community Building. THANK YOU GARY!!!



Sykesville Public Library

You are invited to

BOOKWORM BANQUET

A meatload or lasagna dinner to benefit the

Sykesville Public Library.

Pickup Only.

20 Shaffer Street, Sykesville The Roman Catholic Church

Must have Prepaid Ticket by

Sept. 20th—\$10 Paid by Cash or Check
at the Library

September 23, 2024 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

Dinners prepared by
Shannon's Catering
Tickets donated by
Leo Nedza Funeral Home



A Friend Is a Gift of God

Among the great and glorious gifts our heavenly Father sends Is the GIFT of UNDERSTANDING that we find in loving friends, For in this world of trouble that is filled with anxious care Everybody needs a friend in whom they're free to share The little secret heartaches that lay heavy on their mind, Not just a mere acquaintance but someone who's "JUST OUR KIND"-For, somehow, in the generous heart of loving, faithful friends The good God in His charity and wisdom always sends A sense of understanding and the power of perception And mixes these fine qualities with kindness and affection So when we need some sympathy or a friendly hand to touch, Or an ear that listens tenderly and speaks words that mean so much, We seek our true and trusted friend in the knowledge that we'll find A heart that's sympathetic and an understanding mind. . . . And often just without a word there seems to be a union Of thoughts and kindred feelings for GOD gives TRUE FRIENDS communion.





It is hard to put in words to Thank all my wonderful friends, neighbors & many Church Members who sent me cards, letters, calls & goodies while I was so sick & depressed the past months.

No one knows what a wonderful feeling to know you have such feelings to know people really Do care for you and to know God is always with you no matter what!! I really did miss coming to church & Sunday School & meetings, please believe me.I know, I also had the Church on My mind & worried about it, but I know God was with us & would see us all through the transition. Thank you God for watching over us!!

So with God's help & my wonderful friends hopefully I can get back on my feet & be able to help all I can. You know me I love helping & specially decorating with the flowers & whatever!!So what more can I say than GOD is so Good & wonderful & please accept my HEARTFELT LOVE & THANKS!!!

May God Bless You all & watch over us & be with us each & every day!
MANY THOUGHTS & PRAYERS TO ALL!!!
GRATFULLY WITH LOVE!!! JANE

Choir Around the Fire

On Tuesday evening, Aug. 13, choir members and their families were invited to meet around the fire ring at the home of the Triponey's for mountain pies, snacks, fellowship and discussion.

After the meal, we enjoyed a few sing-a-long songs of praise and then began the discussion of re-organizing and re-newing the choir and music ministry of the Paradise Church as we move into the future.

Laybn Hollis joined us via phone and offered some much appreciated ideas, directions and suggestions for greater outreach through music. He has agreed to help with directing and music selection. The first practice was decided to be Tuesday, September 10.

All interested singers are welcome to join and become a part of this new adventure.

And, as always, please pray for Christ's Spirit to inspire, encourage and unite us in spreading His love through music and beyond.

Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name. Psalm 30:4



Trash and Treasure Sale

Trash or Treasure? You decide! Join us for our annual Trash and Treasure Sale where you can find everything you never knew you needed. Baked goods to satisfy your sweet tooth, clothes to update your wardrobe, household items to make your home sparkle, books, toys, tools, and much more. Bring your items and let us do the work for you!

The sale will be held at the Paradise Community Building on Friday, Oct. 11th from 9-5 and Saturday, Oct. 12th from 9-1. Drop off will be on Wednesday Oct. 10th from 2-5pm and Thursday Oct. 11th from 4-7pm. If you need a number for your items, please contact Tracy Weber at 814-653-2146. A percentage of the sales directly benefits the Paradise Community Building and Park.

As Happy as a Dog with Its Head out the Window

For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

-IEREMIAH 29:11 (RSV)

I DON'T THINK I've ever seen anything as joyful as a dog with its head stuck out the window of a moving automobile. Its tongue is usually flapping and there's a smile on its face.

I'm not sure what makes the dog so happy, so carefree. It can't guess what the next turn is going to be, and it's not worried about the destination. It's just finding joy in the journey.

If you think about it, we are all passengers on the journey called life, and the person at the wheel is not only the Creator who made us, but also the Savior who died so we could know freedom.

It's so easy when the journey gets long, a detour changes our plans, or a storm sends us off course. We're tempted to grumble, worry, and question if the Driver knows what he's doing, but God calls us to trust him with our futures. Because of his great love, we can bathe in the freedom of knowing he's not taken by surprise when the road gets bumpy.

It's true that the curves in the road don't always come expectedly, and sometimes we have to drive through storms, but there can be a deep-set joy in our journey because we know who holds the map, the plans, and the final destination. The journey is what teaches us to take in the view and trust in the Savior.

In the middle of our what-ifs and are we there yet, there is a loving Father at the wheel of our lives, and his plans are for our good and his glory. When we really embrace his control, that's when we can sit back, enjoy the ride, and trust in his plans.

-Pepper Basham

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September 2024 Sunday School Restart

As Summer 2024 winds down (hard to believe!!) and kiddos and families return to a back-to-school schedule, our Sunday School classes are taking this opportunity to invite each one of you to join one of our many classes. If you have any questions, about them, please see me or talk to the class leaders/facilitators. We will be most happy to answer questions and find a place where you are comfortable studying the Word of God with friends.

Youth and Littles:

There are now three classes offered in the Primary Department in the church basement. Preschoolers are led by Michelle Pifer and Diane Carlson. Pre-K thru age 6 is our new class and will be led by Tracy Weber with some help from her daughter, Meg. And ages 7 thru 11 (or 12) are taught by Bobbi Becker where she is currently using Legos to help bring make Bible stories memorable. Classes are very flexible and if one of the kiddos needs to be in the Pre-School class a little longer or if a Pre-K is not quite ready for an older class, we can adjust accordingly. If we have some older ones (over 12) start to attend we will start a 4th class. These individual classes will begin on Sunday, September 8 at 10:45 AM.

Adults:

Lisa Triponey leads "His Flock" class and is meeting in the front pews of the sanctuary. All and everyone is welcome to join. This class hosts some of our younger adults and also has some others mixed in. Lisa dives directly into scripture and they are currently working through the Book of Galatians.

The "No Longer Young" Adults class meets in the one of the back Sunday School rooms. This is facilitated by Melissa Shepler and we work through various parts of scripture using guided curriculum. We have wrapped up a study on Paul and have not quite decided which direction we will be going next. Again, all ages are welcome!

The Senior Adult Class meets in the other back classroom and is led by Nancy London. They will be starting a study by David C Cook called **Worship in the Covenant Community**. The class is labeled "Senior" but anyone and everyone is welcome here as well.

Please considered joining one of our classes and join us as we dig into God's Word with friends.

Also, we could use some additional substitute teachers for our Youth and Littles groups. If you are interested, please let me know.

Building Up the Church...

On Tuesday, Aug 27, the meeting of the former Research Committee along with many other interested individuals me brainstorm and begin preparation of the Church Volunteer Survey as requested by the Consistory. It was a very product, meeting with lots of suggestions and ideas for service in many different areas within our Church. The Survey will be produced and provided sometime during September. If you have ideas or suggestions and were not able to attend the meeting, there will be available space on the Survey for you to contribute your ideas. And, as always, you can talk to any consistory member too.

Our church is a living and growing family and the talents and time of all of the congregation (both members and non-members) is of great value. Please spend time in prayer asking that God directs us all into the places we are most needed and that He also directs our church into the directions where we will be effective in carrying out His work within our church family, our community and His world.

Lori Yohe

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1 Corinthians 12:27

Faith Is...

Faith is risking what is for what is yet to be.

It is taking small steps knowing they lead to bigger ones.

Faith is holding on when you want to let go.

Faith is letting go when you want to hold on.

It is believing all things are possible in the midst of impossibilities.

Faith is looking beyond what is and trusting what will be.

It is the presence of light in darkness the presence of God in all.

You are on an adventurous trail with Me. This is not an easy time, but it is nonetheless good—full of blessings as well as struggles. Be open to learning all that I want to teach you as you journey through challenging terrain. And be willing to let go of familiar comforts so you can say a wholehearted "Yes!" to this adventure.

I will give you everything you need to cope with the challenges you face. Don't waste energy projecting yourself into the future—trying to walk through those "not yet" times in your mind. This is a form of unbelief. I have unlimited resources to provide what you need, including a vast army of angels at My beck and call.

Pray continually as you make decisions about this journey. I can help you make wise choices because I know everything—including what lies ahead on your path. Your mind makes various plans about your way, but I am the One who directs your steps and makes them sure.

nnecting the global military community to Jesus Christ.





Joey Payne Cru Military 1831 Eden Road | Lancaster, PA 17601

joey.payne@crumilitary.org

Back from Mongolia!

Dear Ministry Partners,

So many amazing stories from Mongolia are swirling around my mind! It was so hard to sit down and pull just one out for you! So, I made a list of all my stories to get them out of my head so I can start writing. Over the next few months, I will share more stories!

But to start, the Centurions Team (the name of Cru Military in Mongolia) is so amazing! The staff members there are all young and on fire for the Lord. Every one of them has an amazing story of how they first heard about Jesus and how they chose to follow Him. Then, they can tell you who discipled them and how they shared Christ and made disciples, too! They literally could make a "Spiritual Family Tree" and track generations of disciples making disciples! The stories were so incredible and so inspirational! I recorded our interviews to write the stories of these amazing missionaries to inspire others.

The first week I spent a lot of time in the offices for Mongolia Campus Crusade for Christ and the Centurions Ministry (office signs in the photos to the

I had the honor of joining the **Centurions Team** for their staff retreat far from the city at a Nomad's Camp. They asked me to lead devotions two of the days, but they inspired and taught me so much more than I helped them!





right). The team had many plans for me—from teaching the team new support-raising ideas to meeting with staff and military servicemen about future projects to help military families. In between those meetings, I interviewed staff and gathered their stories about ministry in Mongolia. I was tired after that week!

In the second week, I visited a camp that was ministering to handicapped kids. I had heard several stories about staff members first hearing about Jesus and starting to follow Him at that camp. It was a beautiful place just exemplified the love of God. I sat with the kids as they were hearing about how amazing Jesus is. I was falling in love with Jesus all over again, too. I believe God has big plans for that camp in the future.

Finally, I got to join the Centurions Team for their staff retreat. One of the staff members coordinated the retreat at her family's nomad camp. As far out into the Mongolian wilderness as you can imaging with no roads, running water, or electricity. But in that valley with "gers" (the Mongolian name for yurts) and goats, God showed up to renew the team—and me.

Thank you for sending me to Mongolia! I gathered information, stories, and ideas. Now I will meet with the regional directors and the Mongolian director and see what God is doing with all these pieces. Knowing God, it is going to be AMAZING!

With with bound with the mine your

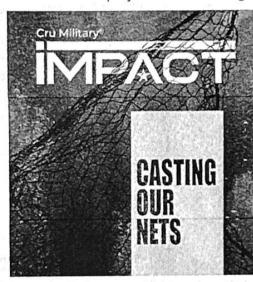
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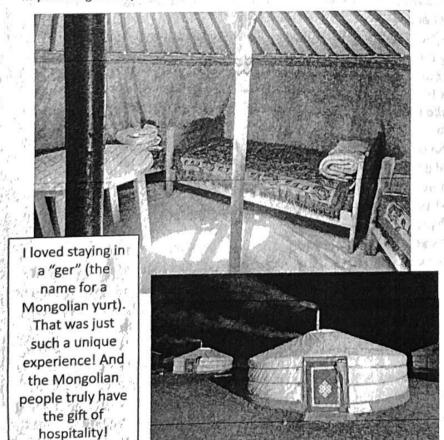
The Impact Magazine

One of the things I am always working on at Cru Military is the Impact Magazine. I gather stories from our work throughout the U.S. and around the world for this report. The magazine helps explain who we are to churches, partners, chaplains, and donors.

We used to produce four magazines a year, but this year we dropped that to two so I can work on other projects like recruiting

documents and staff training modules. I have not printed the magazines for you each time due to cost. The last time I checked, it was going to cost \$4.99 per copy to print! But I am hoping to print this next version by getting a bulk price with other staff. This month, we will post it on crumilitary.org. (If you do not see it, just search for "Impact Magazine.")





Future Stories from Monb for Upcoming Newsletters.

- The "Apostle Paul" of Mongolia
- Meeting with Senior Officers from the Army, Border Guards, and the Air Force—and the help they offered
- Staff stories and testimonies—and how God is working through each of them
- Bibles for Senior Officers
- The support-raising class and it's effect on Mongolian Missionaries
- Fellowship and dinner with Junior Officers Wives
- Evangelism and the Young Life Camp
- What God wants to do in Mongolia in 2025 through me and you...

Prayer Requests:

Please join me in prayer for:

- Processing all the information and stories from the Mongolian trip to see what God is leading us to do.
- Salvation for the Senior Officers that we met with in Mongolia. The team there is doing follow up, but only the Holy Spirit can open hearts to Jesus
- A revival in Mongolia! The team there wants to see more people come to Christ and go and make more disciples! Pray for God's favor and power to keep going!
- Fully-supported missionaries in Mongolia. I taught a class on support-raising and gave them lots of encouragement. Pray that God will help them be fully-funded as they work on what they learned.
- More staff for Cru Military in the U.S. and around the world. We are missing key roles and really need those people to move forward.

Backpack Blessing

Backpack Bles Donna and the congregation blessed the children and their backpacks, praying for a safe and productive school year, and that the children will always be reminded of the love of God that surrounds them each day.

After the blessing, Meghan Weber distributed a gift bag from the Primary Sunday School classes to each student. These bags included a notebook, pencil, eraser, stamp, glue stick, ruler, and a bookmark containing a blessing that the children can carry with them. Teachers received a bookmark with a blessing as well.

Lord, please bless these children. We ask that You give them strength and courage to be away from their family - and that You sustain and guide them as they learn and grow. We also pray for the teachers - please grant them wisdom to educate, protect, and encourage these young hearts and minds. We ask that You protect and be with the students and teachers every day, and that You help them discover the wisdom and truth only You can give. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Corn and Doggie Roast

On Sunday, August 18th, the annual corn and doggie roast was held. Bob and Annette Roy, Dean and Sandra Reed, Linda Blosh, and Mike and Diane Carlson did a fabulous job of preparing the fire and cooking the corn, and making sure everyone was able to enjoy a hot dog cooked to perfection. The delicious corn was donated by Mark & Michelle Pifer, and Dan & Nancy Keller. Many scrumptious desserts were enjoyed as well.

Barry Fillman gave the blessing, and a wonderful meal followed. The evening was filled with good food and fellowship.

The rain even decided to join in on the fun, albeit briefly.

Those in attendance were: Ray and Loretta Shepler - Larry Shepler - Lisa Triponey - Donna Pifer - Mark and Michelle Pifer - Ann Weber - Joyce London - Linda Blosh - Elaine Fillhart -Max and Debbie Pifer - Lane and Brenda Weber - Erica, Nora, and Maddox States - Jason, Tracy, Meghan, and Jacob Weber - Jason, Holli, Jackson, and Ryhett Polito - Tom, Janet, and Marissa Douthit - John, Linda, and Katie Pifer - Bob and Annette Roy - Dean and Sandra Reed -Mike and Diane Carlson - and Barry and Rosanne Fillman.

BACK TO SCHOOL

WORD SEARCH

S N U S S U D K S X W F X K G Y N N S 0 Y Q C E G A N J U U J R 0 0 J C Y C Q S D 0 L B S 0 T J R Q N F Z Q X Q G C N N X T R U X S U P P Ι E S Υ N K H D E 0 E Q Q T C C R H В H K B H R M F 0 S W Ι N X R 0 Υ Ι R G B Ι C X R 0 R E K G Α B 0 P T Α 0 C 0 G P E C P X S Y Q A L R E A Z G A N X T E P N 0 В 0 0 K N X C J Q N T В Z N 0 Α X M K В A C K C F S P Α K X E R A E R Y K S B R W J R H Z D E M D B Ι N U R E J Z S Ι N V D D B L B E S Z C B E S Z R K W W X Α N S Z N K A I E N A N Z Q Y C P Α U S S Ι R C K K Y X D R D Z S J C R H S Ι U I R 0 N Ι N B M P T D

ALARM CLOCK BACKPACK BOOKS BUS CLASS

COMPUTER CRAYONS DESK ERASER FRIENDS

LEARN LUNCH BOX NOTEBOOK PAPER PENCIL PLAYGROUND RECESS SCHOOL SUPPLIES

TEACHER