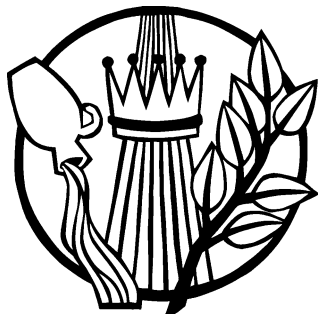


Seventeenth Sunday of Pentecost ~ September 15, 2024

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church
2402 W Grandview Blvd, Erie Pa 16506
Rev. Karen Parsh, Pastor
Sheryl Williams, Coordinator of Music



Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of *messiah*) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please Stand

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.

In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace
in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ~ ELW 720 *We Are Called*

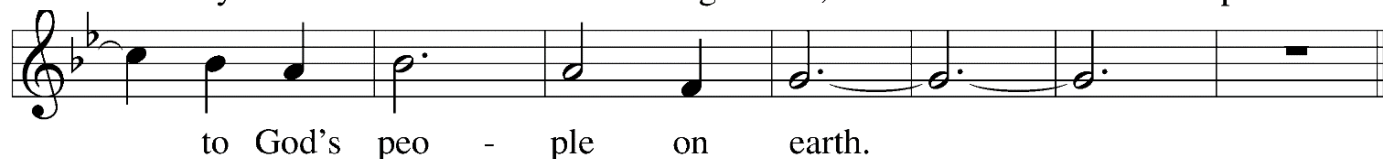
GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN of PRAISE ~ *Glory to God* cont'd pg. 3



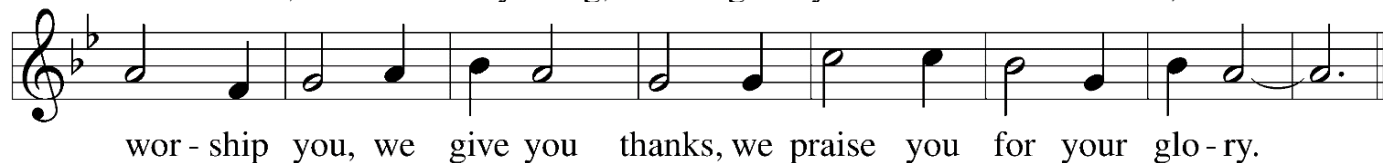
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth.



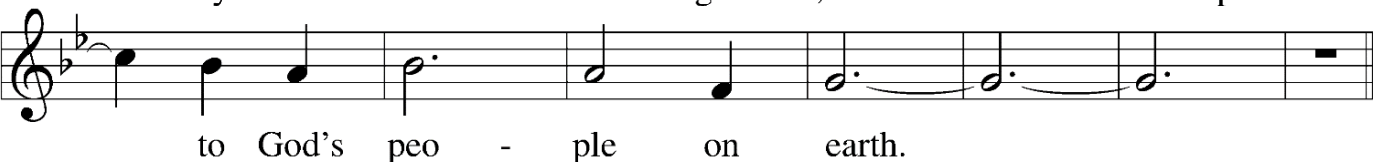
Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al- might - y God and Fa - ther, we



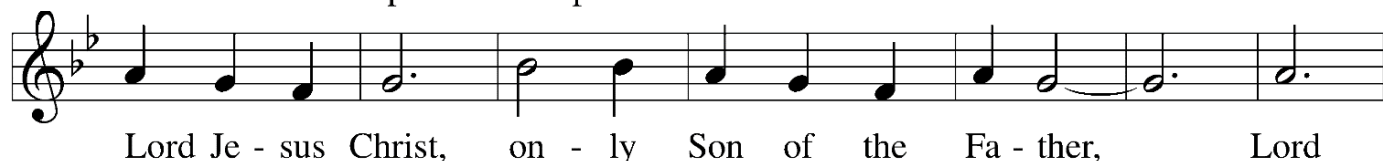
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth.



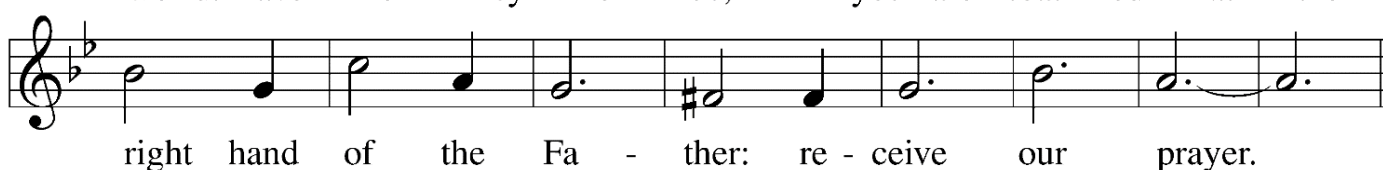
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord



God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo - ple on earth.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men, a - men.
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER of the DAY

Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let's Pray Together.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer. **O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 116:1-9 Sung Responsively **Tone 1**

¹I love the LORD, who has ¹heard my voice,
and listened to my ¹supplication,

**²for the LORD has given ¹ear to me
whenev- ¹er I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the
grave ¹came upon me; I came to ¹grief and sorrow.

**⁴Then I called upon the name ¹of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray you, ¹save my life.”**

⁵Gracious is the ¹LORD and righteous;
our God is full ¹of compassion.

**⁶The LORD watches o- ¹ver the innocent;
I was brought low, ¹and God saved me.**

⁷Turn again to your rest, ¹O my soul.
for the LORD has dealt ¹well with you.

**⁸For you have rescued my ¹life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my ¹feet from stumbling;**

**⁹I will walk in the presence ¹of the LORD
in the land ¹of the living.**

SECOND READING: James 3:1-12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~

Al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, Chapter Eight.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah."

cont'd

³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny them-selves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON ~ Pastor Karen Parsh

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ **ELW 667** *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*

PRAYERS of INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

We pray for the church throughout the world. Form us into communities of forgiveness and grace. Help us to notice where you are calling us into new relationships, and give us courage to embrace the uncomfortable and unfamiliar. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the earth and all its inhabitants. Protect lands at risk of wildfire and heal dying forests. Where fire brings destruction, raise up new growth. Guide us in tending precarious ecosystems. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those who govern nations, tribes, and cities. Open them to the cries of people in need. Direct them in shaping policies that prioritize the health and well-being of all who struggle with hunger and housing insecurity. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who are ill, all who are lonely or anxious, and all who grieve. We pray especially for: Esther, Judy, Walter, Mary, Pastor Karen & Dave, Ed & Jeanne, Tom, John, Bill, Evelyn, Don & Donna. Draw them close to you and soothe them with the promise of your enduring love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for teachers, professors, librarians, school administrators, staff, and all who support the education of young people. Sustain them as they shape learning communities, rooted in equity and authenticity. We pray for children of all ages in their learning. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We remember our beloved dead who with the great cloud of witnesses bear witness to your saving grace. Accompany us in our pilgrimage of faith, that we too place our hope and trust in you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Please be seated

New Members Installation

This person, Ann Louise Bitzer, desires to make public affirmation of her Baptism as a member of Abiding Hope Lutheran Church.

Dear friends, we rejoice to receive you, members of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, into our fellowship in the Gospel.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Brothers and sisters in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word, God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been nourished at his holy table and called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now, therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises? **I do.**

Please Stand

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the
Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these people your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER SHAWL PRESENTATION

WELCOME

We joyfully welcome you and celebrate your membership into our Abiding Hope Community.

PEACE ~ The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Please be seated

MEAL

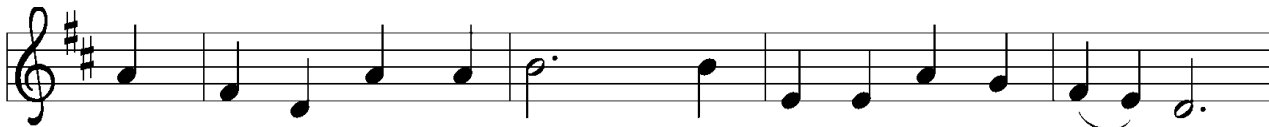
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING and PRESENTATION of GIFTS

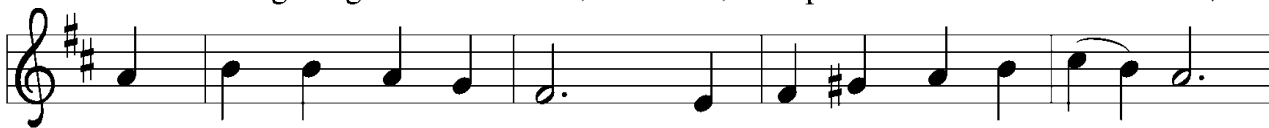
OFFERING ~ Choir: *I Trust in You* -Cox/Stone/Smith

Please Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN ~ ELW 806 *O God, My Faithful God* v.1,4



1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing;
3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;
4 When dan-gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth - ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:
what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—
guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in
to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless
but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.
what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.
then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.
and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. **Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

We celebrate the Holy Spirit, who hovered over creation and brought order out of formlessness. We celebrate the Divine Spirit, who filled Jesus with power and wisdom and, through him, made divine life available to all. We celebrate the Spirit, who has been poured out on all people, and leads us into the Kingdom of God. And so, as we gather at this table, we recognize the Spirit's Presence among us, and we open our hearts to the Spirit's influence. Together we offer our praise and join in the hymn of all creation:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might:
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na
in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. **Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS ~ ELW 808 *Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song v.1,3*
Instrumental Meditation

PASTORAL BLESSING

May the body and blood of our † Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful † bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN ~ ELW 774 *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

DISMISSAL ~ Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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PARISH NOTES ~ September 15, 2024

Pastor Karen Parsh ~ 814-881-3266

Office: 814.868.8685 ~ ahadministrator@hotmail.com

FB: abidinghopelutheranchurch ~ www.abidinghopeerie.org

*This morning the flowers are given, to the glory of God,
in Celebration of Damian Santabene's 70th Birthday
from Marcia, Beth, Chris & Brooke and Grandkids*

Please keep these members and friends in your prayers: Esther Klakamp, Judy Nordin, Mary Randall, Walter Nunemaker, Kathi (Cindy Filson's sister), Pastor Karen & Dave, Ed & Jeanne Tropper, Tom Cirillo, John Belek, Bill Overmoyer, Don & Donna Holder, and Evelyn Senger.

Receiving Communion: If it is a **challenge for you to come forward** to receive communion, please alert the usher and you will be served communion at your seat.

Sunday, September 15: Choir: Warmup 9a ~ Rehearsal 10:45a.
Bible Study 11a

Wednesday, September 18: Prayer Warriors anytime between **1:00-3:00p** for silent prayer/meditation for the needs of our church, neighborhood, community, state, nation and world. Remember, if you cannot join us, you can pray with us wherever you are, for as long as you can. God honors our prayers--Believe it!

Wednesday, September 18: This will be **final** viewing/bidding for the paintings of Milton Sontheimer at the P.A.C.A. Gallery 1505 State St. The **event for ALHC members and friends** begins at **5:30p**. The paintings are available for viewing and bids accepted until that date. Please check with Mark Tannenbaum, 814-434-0687, for other days/times the gallery is open.

Friday, Saturday, September 20 & 21: **AHLC Rummage Sale, 12p-3p.**

Thinking about changing your home/clothing from summer to fall/winter? Look through your closets/attic/basement/garage and bring in items. Donations need to be clean, useable and wearable. **Items accepted today 10:30a-12:30p.** Other donation days, listed on the **volunteer form**, is on **center table** in the narthex. Please consider offering your time to make this a success.

Wednesday, September 25: **Men's Night, 6:30p, Oasis Pub/Tiki Bar**

3122 W. Lake Rd. All male members (plus friends) are welcome to stop in and join the group for an evening of "guy" conversation, good food and an adult beverage (if you choose). No RSVP's.

Thursday, September 26: This month **Ladies Night Out** will be a catered dinner, **\$15.00**, @ **5:30p** in the **Fellowship Hall**, followed by a fun night of **BUNCO**. **RSVP needed by September 22.** Form is on the center table in the **narthex**. The cost for dinner can be paid by placing in an **envelope marked "LNO"** and drop in the offering plate or to the office.

Sunday, September 29: The **49th annual Crop Walk** event that supports the Kearsarge Food Panty and Second Harvest Food Bank will start **from Beach 1 @ 1:00pm**. All are invited to participate in the walk and of course, donate. **Please see Analee Cree.**

Monday, September 30: **Ladies are welcome to join the "Prayer Shawl" Gathering, 10a-12noonish** for prayer, good conversation, knitting/crocheting shawls, prayer cards, lap robes for the homebound. Start a new or maybe complete a piece you've started, but not quite finished. Experience not necessary, showing "how to" will gladly be offered. Frequency of the gathering TBD.

Saturday, October 19: Plans are in full swing for the **Pumpkin Fest...volunteers** are not only **a vital part, but also an asset**, in **making this event a successful** community outreach program. A **form to sign** with a list of areas where people are needed is on the **center table in the narthex**. Please consider offering a couple hours of your time to help out ... you'll have fun and be greatly award by the smiles and laughter of the children attending. **Bath tissue cardboard rolls**, for the children's craft project, **no longer needed. A BIG Thank You** for the contributions.

October 1-October 31: Inter-Church Ministries "Coats for Kids" drive. Donations of new or gently used coats for youth of all ages, along with mittens, hats, scarves, and boots will be accepted at 250 W. 7th St. or email icn@icneriecounty.org for pick up. Cash donations by email or by check to Inter-Church Ministers at W 7th address.

Little Library Update: God is so faithful to this ministry! We are not in need of books right now, but donations of bookmarks with room for an Abiding Hope address label would be appreciated! The pantry can use dried fruit, meals in pouches or microwave containers, cereals, pasta, rice, juice boxes, packages of graham crackers, and peanut butter in plastic jars. How grateful we are for your generous donations! --you are truly impacting our neighborhood! *-Connie Kerr-Vogt.*

Office Hours: For **Pastoral emergencies**, please contact **Pastor Karen @ 814-881-3266.**

KAFP Project Dignity: September item, **paper products.** Donations can be place in the basket on the shelf in the Heritage Room.

Altar Flowers: Anyone who wishes to donate flowers for Sunday worship, weekly sign-up and request forms are on the table in narthex. Arrangements- \$20.00 each. Place the completed form and payment in the offering plate, or to the office by the Monday prior your chosen Sunday.

August Finances

Income	\$3,637.00	Year to Date	\$76,037.03
Expenses	\$9,751.96	Year to Date	\$90,826.16
Difference	-\$6,114.96	Year to Date	-\$14,789.13
YTD Budget \$90,051.68			

Worship Leaders ~ September 15, 2024

Videographer	Penny Gresh
Greeter/Coffee	Cindy Filson
Lector/Prayers	Donna Holder
Assisting Minister/Acolyte	Penny Gresh
Communion Cups	Nancy Cuning
Communion Tray	Mary Randall
Presenter	Jeanne Tropper
Presenter	Carolyn Hayes
Usher	Rich Filson
Usher	Volunteer
Counters	Analee and Diana