

# the Messenger



September 17, 2023

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



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**"God's Work, Our Hands"**—a nationwide day of service throughout the ELCA was held September 10. Our outdoor garden harvest project was rained out, but that didn't stop us from preparing food for those in need! Fellowship Hall was packed with 29 children and 36 adults who prepared **141 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches** and **120 Caring-for-Friends meals**.

Thank you to everyone who helped! Watch for details of our next food packing service event on January 14, 2024.



Scripture Readings for September 24

**Jonah 3:10--4:11**

*God's concern for Nineveh*

**Philippians 1:21-30**

*Standing firm in the gospel*

**Matthew 20:1-16**

*Parable of the vineyard workers*



## The Café at God's Love is OPEN!

The Café is now open between worship services for hospitality and fellowship. Stay for a while or grab a treat on your way to the Adult Faith & Life class. Free-will donations are welcome. [CLICK HERE](#) to serve as a barista; [CLICK HERE](#) to provide baked goods, or visit the [SignUp Hub](#). **Questions?** Contact **Kathy MacDonald**.



## The Nursery is Open!

The church nursery is now open and staffed on Sunday mornings between **8:30am – 12:30pm**.

Nursery guidelines and sign-in/sign-out procedures are posted by the nursery door.

[CLICK HERE](#) or visit the [SignUp Hub](#) to volunteer as a nursery assistant.



## Worship Music Ensembles Resume

Our worship music ensembles have resumed rehearsals and are looking for new members to help proclaim God's Word through music. New singers and musicians are *always* welcome to join at any time. Contact **Bill Lafty**, Director of Rejoice, or **Cheri Tigh**, Director of Choirs, for more information.



## Blood Drive Results

Thank you to all who donated at the Blood Drive! **29 units** were collected, including 3 Power Red donations. We were very appreciative of the new air conditioning system in Fellowship Hall! It was a brutally hot day and the system worked beautifully. Our final drive of the year will be **Tuesday, December 5**. ~ **Beth Meyers, Coordinator**

## Happy Ordination Anniversary!

September 17, 2023 marks one year

since **Pastor Brandi Hebert's** joyous ordination service at God's Love. We pray for continued blessings on her ministry.

Stop by the Café between services for a celebratory treat.



## Good Neighbor Garden Harvest Monday, September 18 from 9am – 11am



Our planned garden harvest was rained out last week so the *Rolling Harvest* organization is stepping in to help “glean” our field. Congregation members are invited to work with their volunteers, helping to harvest the potatoes, carrots, and onions. All produce will be distributed to local food pantries.

Visit [rollingharvest.org](http://rollingharvest.org) to learn more about “gleaning” and the important work *Rolling Harvest* does.

## HOPE Supporting Those in Need

Donations for the lunches to the *Reach Out Foundation's* homeless drop-in center in Penn del are due in the **Lobby of Love** on **Tuesdays by 10:30am**. Non-perishable items can be dropped off any day. Sandwiches can be frozen and left in the church freezer.



Want to help? [SEPTEMBER SIGNUP](#); [OCTOBER SIGNUP](#) or visit the **SignUp Hub**.

## Christian Education Programs for All Ages – Sundays at 10:00am

### Sunday School (ages 4 – grade 6) Sunday, September 17 • 10:00am

Classes for children ages 4 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be held in the following rooms.

- 4 year/Kindergarten: Room B4
- 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>: Room B1
- 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>: Room A1
- 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>: Room A2

For further information, see the bulletin boards in the main hallway. Younger children are welcome in the nursery.

### Confirmation and Youth Ministries (grades 7 – 12) Kickoff Orientation

Sunday, September 17 • 10:00am

Programming for the 2023 –2024 school year will include confirmation instruction for grades 7 – 9 as well as faith-based opportunities for all youth in grades 7 – 12.

Parents will gather in Pastor Dan's office and students will gather in the loft with youth coordinator, **Julie Eastburn**, to discuss upcoming projects and activities.



### Adult Faith and Life

Sundays at 10:00am beginning September 17 • Fellowship Hall

Our first series is entitled *Texts of Terror 2.0*. There are some scary passages in the Bible that pose distinct challenges for our interpretation of scripture. We'll look at a different passage each week; exploring its biblical context as well as its use and misuse as a lens into modern-day issues.

**Pastor Dan** will lead the discussions.



### AHTN Shared Meal Saturday, September 30 4:00pm • Fellowship Hall

AHTN Shared Meals, hosted daily at various houses of worship throughout the area, help support folks who are homeless. There are lots of **opportunities to get involved** as we serve our traditional taco casserole meal. [SIGN UP HERE](#) to donate food items, set up, help in the kitchen, serve food/beverages, visit, or clean up.

**Questions?** Contact **Robin Pecuch** or **Sandy Anthony**.

### Ways you can SERVE

**Usher, Reader, Communion Assistant, Nursery Assistant, Altar Guild, Acolyte** There are many opportunities for members of the congregation (adults and youth) to assist during our worship services. Any of these roles are wonderful opportunities to engage in service, meet new people, and deepen your own worship experience.

[SIGN UP FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER](#), or visit the **SignUp Hub** to choose weeks and roles convenient for you.

New volunteers are encouraged! Instructions will be provided.

### September's Highlighted Collection



September's collection benefits *The Cookstove Project* to help those in developing countries cooking over open fires.

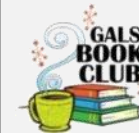
Approximately *3 billion people* throughout the world cook over open fires leading to millions of deaths due to indoor air pollution.

To participate in this collection, take an envelope from the **Lobby of Love** and enclose a contribution of any amount. Each stove costs approximately \$10 to build and maintain. **96% of your gift** will be spent solely on building cookstoves in Uganda and Nepal. Place your donation in the offering plate or drop off at the church office. For more information please visit [cookstoveproject.org](http://cookstoveproject.org).

**Questions?** Contact **Robin Pecuch** or **Sandy Anthony**.



**God's Caring Stitchers**  
Friday, September 22  
1:00pm • Room A1  
**Questions? Cindy Sundstrom**



**Thursday, September 28**  
7:00pm • Lounge  
“The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post” by *Allison Pataki*

### Grapevine of Friends Fall Luncheon

**Tuesday, September 26**  
11:00am • Fellowship Hall



Open to all looking for fellowship and connection.



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