

+ Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 1, 2024



St. Andrew Lutheran Church 304 Morewood Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15213

St_andrewELCA@verizon.net www.standrewpittsburgh.org



+ Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Order for Worship

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law while the essence of God's law is obscured or ignored. He argues that a state of being "unclean" comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. In John's Gospel this past week, Jesus told us "The words that I have given to you are spirit and life" (John 6: 63). This week, James writes that God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born anew at the baptismal font return to that word every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

Welcome to St. Andrew!

- St. Andrew Lutheran congregation welcomes all who are seeking a place of healing and wholeness a nurturing, faith-forming spiritual home. Our community embraces people of all ages, ethnicities, cultures, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, and family constellations. Come and See!
- Worship Services are live streamed to multiple online platforms. By attending worship, you agree that your image and voice may be broadcast.
- Everyone is invited to make a name tag at the black bookcase in the back of the worship space if they would like. There are stickers indicating pronouns on the bookcase if you would like to include them on your name tag.
- A nursery is available through the doors at the left side of the sanctuary and across from the doorway to the Social Hall. Look for a purple-colored room.
- Worship "toolkits" to help children engage with the service, along with "busy bags" for younger children, are available in the bookcase at the back of the sanctuary. Please feel free to take one to use with/for your children.
- Holy Communion is served with bread (gluten-free available) and wine or grape juice. The
 presiding minister will distribute the bread (host). Please consume this and then pick up an empty
 glass from the tray. The Communion Assistant will pour wine or grape juice into your glass.
 Please step to the side to consume the wine or grape juice. Feel free to kneel at the altar for prayer
 and reflection. As you return to your pew, glasses may be returned to the empty trays on either
 side of the center section.
- A restroom is available on the main level of the church, through the doors to the Social Hall and to the right in the main office.

Abbreviations

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

ACS: All Creation Sings hymnal

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister
A: Assisting Minister

L: Lector

C: Congregation

Pre-Service Music

Welcome

Prelude

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Confession and Forgiveness

Please rise as you are able.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at Baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Gracious God,
C: have mercy on us.
We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but our hearts have been far from you.
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.

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, the source of all healing, your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.



Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT, Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1629–1701

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song

First Reading – Deuteronomy 2: 1-4, 6-9

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to God? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 15

Today's psalm will be spoken and led by the cantor, with the congregation invited to respond with the alternate verses in bold type.

¹Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading – James 1: 17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of God's own purpose God gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of God's creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able and join in speaking the Gospel Acclamation.

Gospel Acclamation

C: Alleluia. God gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would become a kind of first fruits of creation. Alleluia.

Gospel – Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

P: The holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do

your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me;

⁷in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

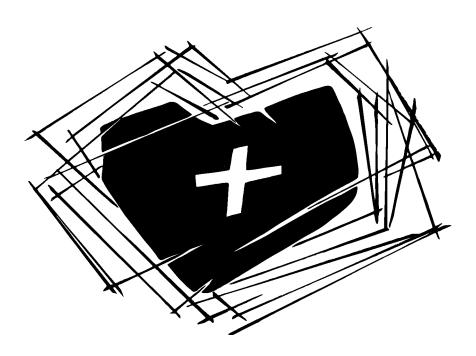
²¹"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

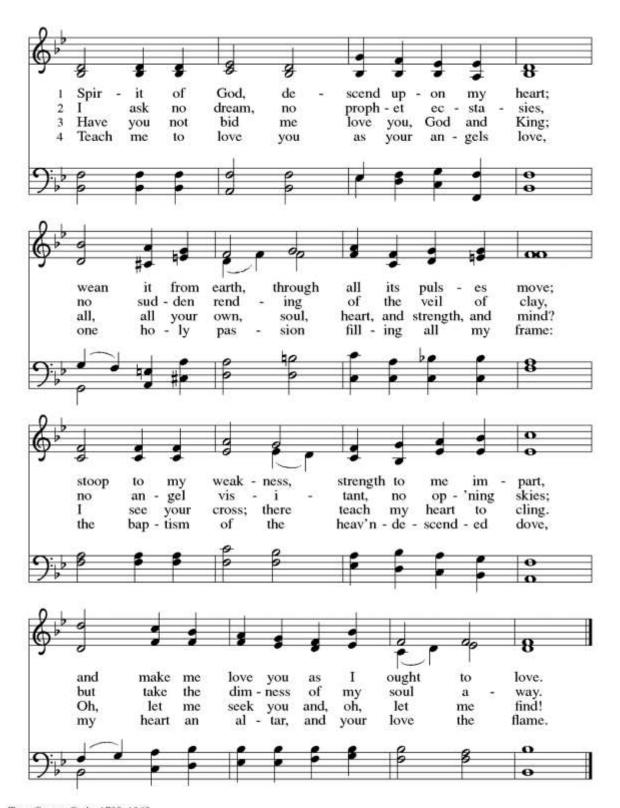
P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

A time of silence for prayer and reflection follows the sermon. When the hymn of the day begins, please rise as you are able.





Text: George Croly, 1780–1860 Music: MORECAMBE, Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841–1897

Prayers of the People

A: Drawn together by the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

After each petition

A: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers

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

C: Amen.

Peace

The presiding minister and the assembly greet one another in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The people may greet those around them with a sign of Christ's peace and may say
Peace be with you or similar words. Please be mindful that not everyone will be comfortable
with sharing the peace, so please seek consent before shaking hands or hugging. Other possible
ways to share the peace include a simple bow with the verbal greeting of peace, or simply a
verbal expression of peace.

When the greetings of peace have concluded, please be seated.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering

We offer ourselves, our gifts and our faithful service to God.

As the offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need, the table is set for Holy Communion.

Reparations Offering

On the first Sunday of each month, St. Andrew invites people of the congregation to consider a donation to a second collection for a reparations fund in acknowledgement of St. Andrew's use of African American spiritual songs in our worship services. Please see the note in the announcements for more information.

Music during the Offering

As the gifts are brought forward for presentation, please rise as you are able.

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble

and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray.
Blessed are you,
C: O God, source of all 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.

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy we praise your name and join in adoring song:

Sanctus

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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

C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Fraction and Invitation

Agnus Dei / Lamb of God

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

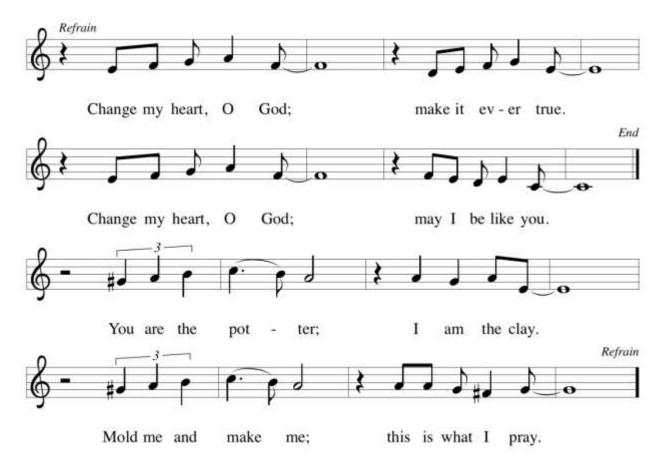
Holy Communion

- All who seek God and desire a deeper and stronger life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion.
- Worshipers from the pulpit side will proceed forward first, followed by the center section, and then the lectern side.
- Please inform an usher if you would like the ministers to bring Communion to you.
- Holy Communion will be served with bread and wine/grape juice.
- The presiding minister will first distribute the bread (host) to each communicant. Please indicate if you require a gluten-free host.
- Once you have consumed the bread, please pick up an empty glass from the tray next to the presiding minister. The Communion Assistant will pour wine from the chalice or grape juice from the cruet into your glass.
- Please step to the side to consume the wine or grape juice.
- Feel free to kneel at the altar rail for prayer after receiving the sacrament.
- As you return to your pew, glasses may be returned to the empty trays on either side of the center section.
- A blessing will be provided for anyone who does not yet receive the sacrament.
- All are invited to join in singing the hymns during Holy Communion.

Hymns during Holy Communion

Change My Heart, O God

ELW 801



Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953 Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyeard Publishing, admin. Music Services

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Hymns during Holy Communion

What God Ordains Is Good Indeed

ELW 776



- 1 What God or dains is good in-deed, for all life well pro vid ing.
- 2 What God or dains is good in deed: my light, my life, my Sav ior!
- 3 What God or dains is good in deed. When hope seems like de lu sion,
- 4 What God or dains is good in deed. My Lord will nev er fail me



The will of God is best for me, the ground of my con - fid - ing.

No ill can get the best of me; God's care will nev - er wa - ver.

I taste the bit - ter cup and plead, "Lord, quench my fear, con - fu - sion."

on dan-ger's path, in deep-est need, when death in grief shall veil me.



My faith - ful God, on ev - 'ry road you know the way Through joy pain I shall at - tain the dawn dis - clos - ing and God the night, re stores de - light; by faith I face to ends My God SO dear will draw me near, in lov - ing arms will



Text: Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951 Music: WAS GOTT TUT, Severus Gastorius, 1646–1682

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Hymns during Holy Communion

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733



Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957
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When all have returned to their places, please rise as you are able.

Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

Prayer

A: Let us pray.
you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us at your table
with your gifts of grace and life. Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Announcements

Please rise as you are able.

Benediction

P: God almighty,
God most merciful,
bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.
C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

Following page

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Toma, oh Dios, mi voluntad – Take My Life, That I May Be



- 2 Que mis pies tan sólo en pos de lo santo puedan ir, y que a ti, Señor, mi voz, se complazca en bendecir. Estribillo
- 3 Que mis labios al hablar hablen sólo de tu_amor; que mis bienes dedicar yo los quiera a ti, Señor. Estribillo
- 4 Que mi tiempo todo_esté consagrado_a tu loor; que mi mente_y su poder sean usados en tu honor. Estribillo

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875–1955 Music: Toma MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956 Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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Those serving in worship today

Assisting Minister Audio-Visual Ministers

Cantor
Lector
Minister of Music
Preaching and Presiding Minister

Jimmi Kocher-Hillmer
Joseph Paetz
Sarita
The Rev. Erin Jones
Colleen Cooke
Laura Reynolds
Pastor Ross Carmichael

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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Please use the QR code below to link to St. Andrew's announcements online!



St. Andrew Lutheran Church Announcements September 1st, 2024

- Welcome to Worship at St. Andrew on the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 1st, 2024 We are so glad you are here, and we offer a special welcome to all visitors and guests connecting for the first time! Worship attendees are invited to make a name tag at the back of the worship space if you would like. There are worship "toolkits" to help children engage with worship and "busy bags" for younger children available in the bookcase at the back of the sanctuary. Please feel free to take one to use with/for your children. All are invited to gather for coffee other drinks and food, and conversation in the social hall after worship.
- Monthly Reparations Offering Today during Worship Jesus' parable from Luke's Gospel about a compassionate Samaritan provides an example of how God's people are called to work for healing and repair for our neighbors, independent of who or what caused harm. In light of this, St. Andrew has made a commitment to reparations in regard to African American spiritual songs used in our worship. The text and music of most hymns is attributed to specific authors, with copyrights in place, usage reported, and royalties paid to those whose works are featured in worship. With African American spirituals, this is not possible. In response to many years of such uncredited use, St. Andrew invites the congregation to give a reparations offering. Funds received in worship will be donated to our siblings at Bethel AME Church, whose land and building were taken from them in the 1950s, to fund their development in the lower Hill District.
- Monthly Produce Distribution Tuesday, September 3rd, 5:30-7:00 p.m. St. Andrew partners with Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank to serve as a distribution site for fresh produce on the first Tuesday of every month. The distribution for September will be Tuesday, September 3rd, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. We invite people of the congregation to help during those hours or with unloading and setup during the day between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome pick up fresh produce!
- Potluck Meal and Hymn Sing with Bethel AME Church Saturday, September 7th, 5:00 p.m.! St. Andrew's worship committee has been in conversation with Pastor Snyder and other leaders of Bethel AME, and we invite people of our congregations to gather informally on Saturday, September 7th, at 5:00 p.m. to share a potluck meal and sing hymns from our respective traditions together. Come share in a time of conversation and community and join with our siblings in Christ in praising God!
- Little Church Big Faith Resumes on Sunday, September 8th, during Worship Little Church Big Faith, a time for Bible stories and activities for children, has been on hiatus for the summer, but we plan to resume weekly activities on Sunday, September 8th! Hope to see you there!
- Shelter Dinner at East End Cooperative Ministry Thursday, September 19th, 6:30 p.m. Each month, people of St. Andrew provide dinner for guests of East End Cooperative Ministry, 6140 Station St. (East Liberty), 15206. We invite you to prepare or purchase one menu item and bring it to the shelter by 6:00 p.m., or just come to help serve at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to contribute, please sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-50823764-shelter.

- Lessons from Dietrich Bonhoeffer in a House Divided and a World on Fire Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., Starting September 25th, via Zoom Join us for six weeks as we explore the life and theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and the lessons we can use as we live at the intersection of faith and civic life today. Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran pastor and theologian living in Nazi Germany, who eventually joined the resistance and was arrested and killed before the end of WWII. This curriculum was compiled by Dr. Lori Brandt Hale, an internationally renowned Bonhoeffer scholar and president of the International Bonhoeffer Society English Language Section. Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania is a partner in distributing to congregations to inspire deeper conversation and discernment about how we live as disciples. Pastor Erin Jones, staff at LAMPa and member of St. Andrew, will facilitate and lead us in these sessions.
- Lutheran Campus Ministry in Greater Pittsburgh "BBQ Bash" Event on Friday, September 27th, 5:00-8:00 p.m. Our church's local campus ministry invites you to its second annual fundraiser to enjoy an evening of great food and friends to support its ministry. The event will be held at Rose Barn at North Park, 10280 Pearce Mill Rd., Allison Park 15101. The evening will feature food and drinks, a silent auction, and music. Cost is \$60 per person. To register, please visit lucpgh.com or use the direct link, Donate (paypal.com).
- Latest Updates on Sumud: The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)'s Initiative for Justice in Palestine and Israel Sumud, which means "steadfastness," is the ELCA's collective response to the ongoing crisis in the Holy Land. To learn more or to sign up for the latest advocacy action alerts, please visit https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/Sumud.
- Coffee Hour Signups Available One way that St. Andrew builds community is by sharing conversation over food and drinks at coffee hour after worship on Sundays. We invite people of the congregation to sign up to coordinate coffee hour each week, which includes brewing the coffee; setting out cups, napkins, food items, and cold drinks; and cleaning up afterward. Everything needed is at St. Andrew and instructions are available. Please sign up to host coffee hour here:

 https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B4AAFAF2CABF85-47069030-coffee.
- Christ in Our Home Devotional Booklets (July September) Available at Church Entrances Christ in Our Home is a booklet of devotions that includes Scripture, a brief reflection, and prayer for each day. The July September is edition is available at the various church entrances. Please feel free to take one for yourself or others!