

September 2023



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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Worship: 10:00 a.m. Communion: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Church Officers

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Congregational President</i> | <i>Ralph Mason</i> |
| <i>Vice-President</i> | <i>Duane Sieck</i> |
| <i>Financial Secretary</i> | <i>Kelly Mazzaferro</i> |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | <i>Jack Mazzaferro</i> |
| <i>Assistant Treasurer</i> | <i>Bob Bray</i> |
| <i>Council Secretary</i> | <i>Luann Bryans</i> |
| <i>Elders</i> | <i>Gene Windham</i> |
| <i>Family Life and Missions</i> | <i>Sally Wesche</i> |
| <i>Fellowship</i> | <i>Lisa Blackwelder</i> |
| <i>Trustees</i> | <i>Jon Pearson</i> |

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Bible Study/Small Group Opportunities

| | | | |
|------------|----------|---|------------------------|
| Sundays | 9:00 AM | Fellowship before Worship Bible Study | In person |
| | | | |
| Mondays | 10:00 AM | Bible Study | In person & FB Live |
| | 5:00 PM | A Pint & Fellowship | Zoom |
| | 7:00 PM | Pastor and a Pint | Zoom |
| | | | |
| Wednesdays | 10:00 AM | Weekly Bible Lessons At G & G's Cafe | In person & FB Live |
| | 3:00 PM | Ladies Bible Study | In person |
| | | | |
| Fridays | 10:00 AM | Book Study Group | Zoom |
| | | | |

Contact the Church Office to become a part of one of these groups today



Scripture Readings

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Oct. 1 (Prop. 21) | Eighteenth S. a. Pentecost | Ezek. 18:1-4, 25-32 | Psalms 25:1-10 | Phil. 2:1-4 (5-13) 14-18 | Matt. 21:23-27 (28-32) |
| Oct. 8 (Prop. 22) | Nineteenth S. a. Pentecost | Isaiah 5:1-7 | Psalms 80:7-19 | Phil. 3:4b-14 | Matt. 21:33-46 |
| Oct. 15 (Proper 23) | Twentieth S. a. Pentecost | Isaiah 25:6-9 | Psalms 23 | Phil. 4:4-13 | Matt. 22:1-14 |
| Oct. 22 (Proper 24) | Twenty-first S. a. Pentecost | Isaiah 45:1-7 | Psalms 96:1-9 (10-13) | 1 Thess. 1:1-10 | Matt. 22:15-22 |
| Oct. 29 (observed) | Reformation Day (Oct. 31) | Rev. 14:6-7 | Psalms 46 | Rom. 3:19-28 | John 8:31-36 |

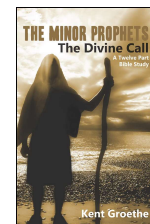
Women Helping Hands



Our meeting this month will be on September 30. We will be putting together the lunches for the Handbell Workshop that day. We hope to raise funds to help out Sunshine Care Home. We also need to independently finish the lap blankets and get the crib blankets to WEC Family Resources. Hoping to have a social meeting in October in addition to other projects ongoing. Please join us.

Have any questions? Contact Luann

ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY



Adult Sunday Bible Study continues. The topic is *The Minor Prophets*, a twelve-part study. As we dive into these often forgotten or neglected books, you will discover God's call upon His followers of every century. Studying the profound words, you will be reminded of what it means to be an obedient follower of Christ and be challenged to live a life that glorifies God in greater and more significant ways. Book cost is \$12.00.

For more information contact: Gail Deluca gdeluca228@yahoo.com or 440-667-9695.



Making a Joyful Noise

My hymn choice for this month is, of course: "A Mighty Fortress". What other would be appropriate for Reformation???

From "The St. Augustine Record" (July 16, 2015)

Story behind the song: 'A Mighty Fortress is our God'

On a cold, windy night in Germany in the early 1500s, a young peasant, Martin Luther, came very near being hit by a bolt of lightning during a thunderstorm. Following his close call with death, he changed his course of study from law to theology. His education continued until he had earned a doctorate in philosophy.

Through his studies, he discovered that true Christianity did not depend upon what one knows about God, but upon a right personal relationship with God. God's forgiveness through the sacrificial death of Christ became all important to Luther.

One day he thought, "If only I could make the pilgrimage to Rome..."

That dream was fulfilled, and while crawling up a staircase called Scala Sancta on his knees, he remembered the verse of scripture, "The just shall live by faith." He sprang to his feet, ran back down the stairs, and the Reformation began.

The greatest work that Luther accomplished was the translation of the New Testament into the language of the people. Then to the amazement of everyone, Luther began to write hymns and gospel songs. The people sang them with great fervor. Luther preached long and hard, becoming a forceful leader of one of the world's greatest spiritual awakenings.

Hymnbooks began to be used in schools and homes, as well as in churches. The Christian worship songs became a spring of spirituality in the hearts and lives of the people.

The song for which Luther will be remembered is "A Mighty Fortress is our God," written circa 1527. It exalts God to a high and lofty position in the minds and hearts of those who believe the message of the song. It is a paraphrase of Psalm: 46.

On the base of Luther's tomb is inscribed, A Mighty Fortress Is Our God. It is said to be the greatest hymn of the greatest man in the greatest period in German history.

Historians declare that it has been sung by persecuted people on their way to exile, and by martyrs at their death. The song is rugged and strong, much like Luther himself. Frederick H. Hedge translated it from the German in 1853.

Handbells – Wednesdays at 4 and Choir – Wednesdays at 5. We will start on Christmas music October 4.

Luann

"Let everything that has breath Praise the Lord!"

Monthly Mission Focus:



WEC Family Resources

To accomplish their mission in ministry, the WEC Family Resources pray, listen, counsel, coach, refer, teach and otherwise care and provide for the varied needs of those they serve. Among the numerous items needed for the women, men, families and precious babies are diapers, cribs, car seats, formula, clothing and diaper bags. These are necessary items that make for a good start in caring for each other and the little ones.

Please pray for this important ministry

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9b

If you would like to make a donation to WEC Family Resources, please write a check to All Saints and note WEC in the memo. All donations need to be made by Sunday, October 29th.



Fellowship News

The first day of fall was September 23, and though we had a few cool days, it doesn't seem like fall is here to stay until October comes around. Cooler temps call for one last opportunity to light up the grill before cold weather hits us. So, with that in mind, we asked Jon Pearson to light up his smoker for October's F4 meal. On the menu, for sure, will be smoked ribs. Full menu still to be determined, but I just wanted to give you that little teaser. Mark your calendars for October 22, it's going to be one you don't want to miss. The menu and sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board on October 10.

Also, a reminder that we will be having our customary potluck luncheon after Worship on Reformation Sunday. Just so we don't have 4 potato salads, a sign-up sheet will be posted for that as well.



SEPT F4

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers. Acts 2:42

SUNDAY SERVANTS FOR OCT

| Date | Greeter | Ushers | Lector | Worship Assistant | Altar Guild |
|--------|---------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|---|
| Oct 1 | Mel | Ralph B & Ralph M | Betty | Pamela | Lisa Blackwelder and Betty Mason |
| Oct 8 | Debby | Duane & Don | Lisa | Patrice | |
| Oct 15 | Denise | Ralph B & Ralph M | Diane | Gene | |
| Oct 22 | Connie | Duane & Don | Sally | Noni | |
| Oct 29 | Rey | Debby & Denise | Lisa | Pat | |



Household of the week:

Les & Mary Fuerch – Oct 1
Shannon & David Gober – Oct 8
Brady & Betty Boyd – Oct 15
Rick & Lori Gross – Oct 22
Lynn Hallberg – Oct 29



Circuit Church of the week:

St John The Apostle, Buford – Oct 1
St Peter, Dahlonge – Oct 8
Trinity, Athens – Oct 15
Trinity, Toccoa – Oct 22
Christ the King, Commerce – Oct 29



Birthdays

Jared Ogden – Oct 1
Sherry Busteed – Oct 4
Pastor Dan Sparling – Oct 6
Carl Priem – Oct 11
Ted Knoke – Oct 12
Myra Leitner – Oct 15
Stephen King – Oct 17
Luann Bryans – Oct 21
Steve Curlee – Oct 21
Don Williams – Oct 26
Tim Schroeder – Oct 30
Kim Sieck – Oct 30



Anniversaries

Ralph & Christine Collinson – Oct 1
Jerry & Colleen Richardson – Oct 4