

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
welcomes you!

September 6,
2026



The 15th
Sunday after
Pentecost

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (1ST SATURDAYS-CHAPEL)

SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM

EDUCATION HOUR: 10:30AM

105 EAST “D” STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220

EMAIL: WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG

THE REV. BRIAN M. ROBISON, PASTOR

THE REV. RONALD C. NEUSTADT, PASTOR EMERITUS

-
- + **To parents with small children:** We are glad your family is worshipping with us today! “*Quiet Bags*” (supplies & activities for use by small children) are available in the Welcome Area. If you or your child need a break from the service, feel free to use the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is audible over the speakers).
 - + An **accessible Restroom** is available off the Welcome Area/Narthex next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level. **Parish Hall and additional Restrooms** are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. An usher will be happy to assist you with the lift.
 - + **Assistive listening devices and low vision items** are available. Please ask one of our ushers for assistance.
 - + **Land Acknowledgement:** This church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the **Quapaw, Myaamia, Kaskaskia, and Kickapoo** peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and still call this land home.

PRELUDE

“Nimrod”

Elgar

WELCOME *Please STAND as you are able*

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit - the one God who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

You may KNEEL or remain as you are. Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of everlasting life. Receive ☩ freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

“Praise My Soul, the God of Heaven”

ELW 864



- 1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
- 2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
- 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
- 4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** *Following the prayer, please SIT.*

WORD

FIRST READING: Psalm 119:33-40

- ³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way | of your statutes,
and I shall keep it | to the end.
- ³⁴ Give me understanding, and I shall | keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with | all my heart.
- ³⁵ Lead me in the path of | your commandments,
for that is | my desire.
- ³⁶ Incline my heart to | your decrees
and not to | unjust gain.
- ³⁷ Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life | in your way.
- ³⁸ Fulfill your promise | to your servant,
which is for | those who fear you.
- ³⁹ Turn away the reproach | that I dread,
because your judgments are good.
- ⁴⁰ Behold, I long for | your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

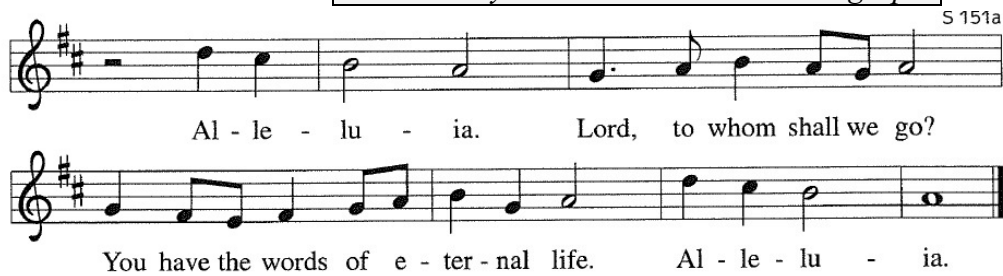
SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE *The assembly STANDS to welcome the gospel.*



GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

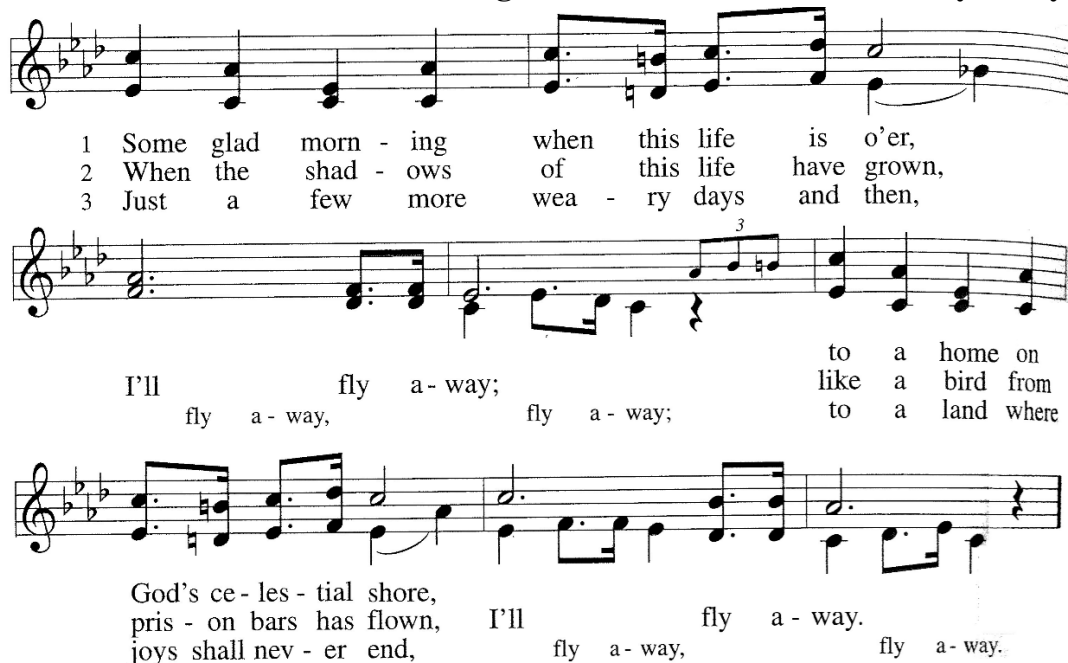
SERMON

“The Rainbow and the Rain”

The Rev. Brian M. Robison

Following the sermon, the assembly STANDS to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY “Some Glad Morning When This Life is O’er/I’ll Fly Away” TFF 716





APOSTLES CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

**Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary.**

**Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *The names of those for whom we pray aloud (members, staff, first-time additions) are listed below. Please read only the first names. Other prayer intentions can be found in the back of this bulletin. The response to "Hear us, O God," is "Your mercy is great."*

Ken Augustine, **Eleanor** Benton, **Natalie & Cody** Best, **Don** Boatman, **Rob** Buck, **Lorraine** Crannage,
Gary Dozier, **Evelyn** Duncan, **Art** Engelage, **Michael** Foppe, **Ola** Fulton, **Mary** Hill, **Morris** Kugler,
Diane Maes, **Bruce** Martens, **Lucy** Montgomery, **Ron** Neustadt, **Jon** Newton, **Tina** Partelow,
Marilyn Robinson, **Wilma** Shroat, **Cohen** Summers, **Carol** Weshinskey, **Gary** Weshinskey

PEACE

*The assembly is invited to share a greeting of God's peace with one another. Following **the Peace**, you may be seated for a few moments.*

OFFERTORY

"I Saw the Light"

Men's Ensemble

OFFERING

Should you wish to leave an offering today, it may be placed in the wooden box on the table near the baptismal font at any point during or after the service.

OFFERING PRAYER *Please STAND as you are able*

Assistant: Let us pray together...

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.

All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have.

Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts

in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

S 152

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

It is indeed right...we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:

S 153

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *traditional*

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

LAMB OF GOD *Please SIT*

S 154

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

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COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Communion is open to everyone. In this sacrament, we believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. At this service, communion will be served from around the altar rail. At the usher's direction, please come forward and kneel at the altar rail.

- ✠ *After receiving the bread, you may take an individual cup or drink from the chalice.*
- ✠ *You may return to your seat after communing.*
- ✠ *Those who do not wish to commune may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this preference.*
- ✠ *Reception of the Eucharist under one kind (bread or wine) is valid communion for those who must avoid either for health reasons.*
- ✠ *If you are unable to go to the altar for communion, please notify an usher or the pastor, so that communion may be brought to you in your pew.*

COMMUNION HYMNS

“As We Gather at Your Table”

ELW 522



1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

ELW 470

1 Draw us in the Spir-it's teth - er, for when hum - bly
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -

in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er
ments of you, that by car - ing, help-ing, giv - ing,

you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!
break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!
we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.
Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

*After the distribution is complete, please **STAND** as you are able for the blessing.*

TABLE BLESSING

The Body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” ELW 207

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together... **Sustaining God,**
with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“How Great Thou Art”

ELW 856



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the night-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Hymn"

V. Daneling

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Greg Guenther

Crucifer: Rex Rothgangel + **Lector:** Charlie Duncan

Chalice Bearer & Tech Minister: Mike Murakami + **Safety Volunteer:** Jan Richards

Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Ushers:** Frank Dressel & Jason Martens

Men's Ensemble: Greg Guenther, Charlie Palmer, Terry Tribout, & Gary Weshinskey

"I grew up in a very open-hearted, faith-based family. You're taught to love and be accepting, and to give more than you receive. Both sides of my family are funny, tender-hearted, good people. Whether you believe in God or not, you need to be grounded; you need to believe in something greater than yourself. We grew up thinking that other people are just as important as we are."

- **Dolly Parton**, *Vogue* magazine, 2022



Prayer Intentions

Members

Ken Augustine, Eleanor Benton, Natalie & Cody Best, Don Boatman, Rob Buck, Lorraine Crannage, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Art Engelage, Michael Foppe, Ola Fulton, Mary Hill, Morris Kugler, Diane Maes, Bruce Martens, Lucy Montgomery, Ron Neustadt, Jon Newton, Tina Partelow, Marilyn Robinson, Wilma Shroat, Cohen Summers, Carol Weshinskey, Gary Weshinskey

Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Bert Alvarez, Stellamarie Bearth, John Belz, Jim Boeving, Thomas Boxdorfer, Patty Brennecke, Patrick Campbell, Susan Carson, Christine, Catherine Davis, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner, Maryann Fernandez, Josh Gansmann, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Glenna Hamilton, Jamie House, Jimmy Jurgens, Rachel Knicely, Austin Lickenbrock, Dusty Little, Donna Loesche, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Bobby McCall, Don McCoy, Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Linda Munn, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Lana Perry, Larry Powers, Goldie Rideout, Darrell Robinson, Sarah and Family, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, Larry Powers, Denise Sebastian, James Showmaker, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Tom Stookey, Ingrid Thompson, Gary Timm, Pat Tubbs, David Vaught, Toni Walston, Louise Wilson, Margie Wilson, Molly Witherell, Karen Woolf, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military

Joshua Anthony, Ethan Collins, Tom Fox, Taiylar Foppe Merrel, Josh Merrel, Ryan McKenzie, Amy Morgan

Members celebrating birthdays this week

Randi Cardoza (9/7), Diane Wagner (9/10), and Natalie Hayes (9/12)

Members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this week:

Bill & Angela Bjornstad (9/6), Joe & Kara Monfre (9/10)

St. Mark Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Brian M. Robison

Administrative Assistant: Randi Cardoza + **Music Director:** Carol Kugler

Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Parish Nurse:** Becky Schnitzius

Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Ronald C. Neustadt

MARK TIMES

News & Notes for September 6, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, September 7:		<i>Labor Day – Church Offices Closed</i>
	2:30PM	Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor
Wednesday, September 9:	9:30AM	Evangelism Meeting – <i>Conference Room</i>
	12:00PM	Ladies' Lunch Bunch at Casa Maria
Thursday, September 10:	4:15PM	Voice Choir
	6:00PM	Bell Choir
	6:00PM	Yoga – <i>Parish Hall</i>

When in our music God is glorified....

Our congregation is blessed to have many good musicians! Many thanks to these folks for generously sharing their time and talents this summer: **Peggy Andersen, Charlie Duncan, Aaron Fuchs, Bonnie Vize**, the **SHINE musicians**, the **Ladies' Ensemble** (Peggy Andersen, Cheri Batten, Patty Bearth, Debbie Guenther, Linda Ness, Carol Weshinskey) and the **Men's Ensemble** (Greg Guenther, Charlie Palmer, Terry Tribout, Gary Weshinskey). Several shared their music more than once. **THANK YOU** to all of you.



Ladies Lunch Bunch This Week

For September's gathering, the LLB will meet this **Wednesday, September 9** at **12 noon** at **Casa Maria Mexican Grill** (100 North High St, Belleville). **Call Ruth Carnaghi** at **618-60-9042** with questions.

Bicycle Donations

Have a gently-used bicycle you've thought of discarding? Our Brothers' Keepers would love to have it! Bring your bicycle to church on September 13 or notify Sherri Foppe, Pastor Brian, or the office if you'd like someone to come pick it up for you!

"God's Work. Our Hands." Day

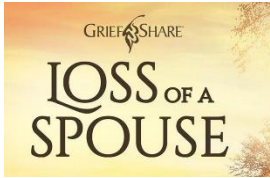
The ELCA's national day of service is coming up **NEXT Sunday, September 13**. We are working to plan activities for various ages and abilities, both in the Parish Hall and out in the community. We will clean windows and assemble raised garden boxes at Our Brother's Keepers (12-3PM) and matching up pillowcases and other linens for Beacon Ministries in the PH after coffee hour.



Choirs Resume Thursday, September 10

Choirs resume rehearsals **THIS Thursday, September 10**. Voice Choir meets at 4:15PM and Bell Choir meets at 6:00PM. If you can carry a tune at all (you don't need to sing solo or even read music), the chancel choir would love to welcome you! Interested? **Call Carol Kugler at 618-581-3079**.

GriefShare: *Loss of a Spouse* Event on September 19



People who are widowed haven't just lost a **loved one**; they've lost an *entire lifestyle*. This one-day, two-hour session GriefShare session hopes to offer support, clarity, and peace during this unsettling time.

You will meet people who understand what you are going through in a safe space to talk, be encouraged, and connect. This 2-hour seminar includes a short video featuring expert Christian counselors, authors, and pastors, followed by small-group discussion.

Join St. Mark's special session, led by Nurse Becky, on **Saturday, September 19** from **1–3 PM** in the **Parish Hall**. The free event includes a video, group discussion, and a Survival Guide. Pre-registration is required at <https://find.griefshare.org/events/294594>

NOTE: Even if you attended this session in April, please consider attending again; grief and loss affect us differently with the passage of time, and you may benefit from another session in ways that you don't anticipate.

Change to Franklin School Lunch Packing

Normally at this time of year we would be recruiting volunteers and soliciting donations for **packing lunches for children in particular need at Franklin elementary school**. However, we were contacted by the principal at Franklin to say that their needs have changed, and while they very much have appreciated our efforts to provide nutritious meals over holiday weekends, **they will not be participating in the sack lunch program this year**. They would like to find some other way to partner with us, so keep an eye on this space for more information. And, THANK YOU all for what you've done to support this program for many years!



Second Sunday Food Collection

In addition to being "God's Work. Our Hands." day, **NEXT Sunday, September 13** is our **monthly focus on food pantry donations**, and we're asking folks to bring **Dollar Tree-sized dish detergent and laundry detergent, and jellies**. Please place them in the big basket as you come into church.

Church Picnic September 27

After the weather put a damper on our pool party but still wanting to have an outdoor church event, we have pivoted back to a **church picnic**, which will be on **Sunday, September 27** from **noon to 3pm** at **Schranz Memorial Park** in Swansea. Format will be as in years past: bring food enough for you and your family, and a game to share!

Coffee Hour Teams Schedule Available

Pick up your coffee hour schedule from Melanie, or email her to have it sent digitally at melanierobison@earthlink.net.

St. Mark Offerings for 8/30: General Fund: **\$2,680.11**; Coffee Fund: \$112.20