

*Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd*  
A congregation of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod  
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*"We are a caring family of God nourished by the Word, guided by the Holy Spirit to share the love of Jesus Christ."*



*The Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Of the Good Shepherd  
501 Fairfield Drive  
Greensburg, PA 15601*

*September 6, 2015*

The Rev. Frank S. Podolinski, Jr., Pastor  
Pastor's Cell Phone -- 724-858-7816  
Pastor's e-mail -- [preacherpod@comcast.net](mailto:preacherpod@comcast.net)  
Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday: 9:30 am. – 2:30 pm.

Tuesday: 11:30 am. – 1:30 pm.

Church Phone -- 724-834-1940

Church's e-mail -- [shepherd501@yahoo.com](mailto:shepherd501@yahoo.com)

Church website – [www.goodshepherdgbg.org](http://www.goodshepherdgbg.org)

Rocking Horse Preschool – [www.rockinghorsepreschool.com](http://www.rockinghorsepreschool.com)

Parish Secretary -- Jenny Luffy

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 am. to 2:00 pm.

Music Director

Nancy Flinner

Organist

Jean Brunot

We welcome all visitors with us and ask that you sign our guest register. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider the Good Shepherd family.

**ALL BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS** are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Children may come forward for a blessing. During communion, we offer wine and grape juice, if you would like to receive grape juice do not bring a cup, it will be provided by the Worship Assistant.

Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips gifted lay people to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian Care to individuals in our congregation who are experiencing difficulties in their lives and extends the care that Pastor Frank continues to provide.

If you could benefit from the confidential, one-to-one care and support of a Stephen Minister, please speak to Pastor Frank. Or you may refer to the Stephen Ministry flyers and cards available in the pew racks.

Please take a moment to fill out a yellow RCR card located in the pews. Please place completed cards in the offering plate.

When you see the following symbol "+", please stand.

Service of the Word and Sacrament  
September 6, 2015  
“Time after Pentecost”  
10:30 am.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“LOOK DOWN ON US” F. MENDELSSOHN

+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the creator of wind and rain. Field and ocean, the bread of life coming down from above, the power at work within us and this world.

**Amen.**

Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin.

God and Father of all,

**We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have told lies, said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action is needed. In your mercy, O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and heal us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.**

**Amen**

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new! In Christ, you are a new creation; your sins are taken away and you are made new. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. **Amen.**

+ GATHERING HYMN

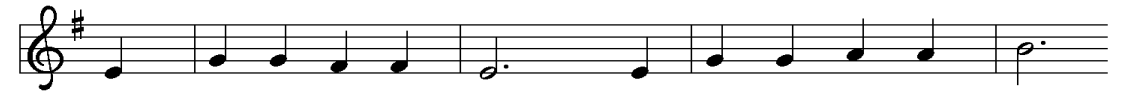
“YOU SERVANTS OF GOD” ELW 825

+ APOSTOLIC 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.**

Kyrie



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

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+ HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory Be to God in Heaven



1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.  
2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a

<sup>4</sup> Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup> then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7a</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 146

<sup>1</sup> Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> **I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.**

<sup>3</sup> Put not your | trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

<sup>4</sup> **When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,  
and in that day | their thoughts perish. R**

<sup>5</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,  
whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup> **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;**

**who keeps promis- | es forever;**

<sup>7</sup> who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.

The LORD sets the | captive free.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed  
down;**

**the LORD | loves the righteous. R**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD cares | for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD shall | reign forever,**

**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah! R**

## SECOND READING: James 2:1-17

<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup> For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup> and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” <sup>4</sup> have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup> Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup> But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup> Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup> You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>9</sup> But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [<sup>11</sup> For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup> So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup> For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup> So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

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### GOSPEL: Mark 7:34-37

The holy gospel according to St. \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup> [Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,<sup>25</sup> but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup> He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>28</sup> But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” <sup>29</sup> Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” <sup>30</sup> So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup> They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup> He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup> Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup> And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup> Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup> They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

*“HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL”*

ELW 612

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

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.**

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\*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With confidence in God’s compassion and generosity, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God’s creation.

*A brief silence.*

O God, we pray for the church. Give it the courage to translate faith into action. Guide the hands and feet of the faithful to answer the needs so abundant in this world. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for streams, pools, springs of water, oceans, lakes, and rivers (*local water sources may be named*). Protect all water sources that refresh and sustain the land, animals, and human beings. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world’s leaders, that they act for the good of all. We pray for all workers, those who can find no work, those who work in unsafe conditions, and those whose labor is exploited. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who lack daily food, who are fearful, and who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*). Come and save them. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly. Make it a place of equality, welcome, and full inclusion. Empower us to live out radical hospitality. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

O God, we remember all who have gone before us and give thanks for their faith and their works. Give us the fortitude to carry on in the work left for us. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

“ARIA DA CHIESA”

G. MUFFAT

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

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 the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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### + OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of mercy and grace,

C **the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

## + GREAT THANKSGIVING

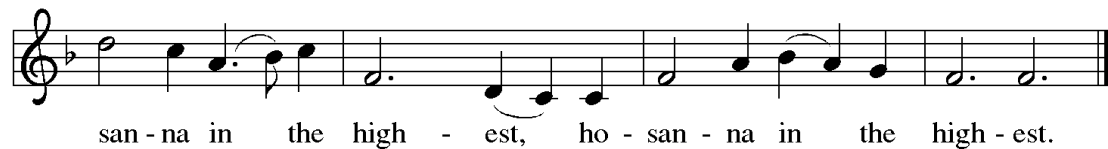
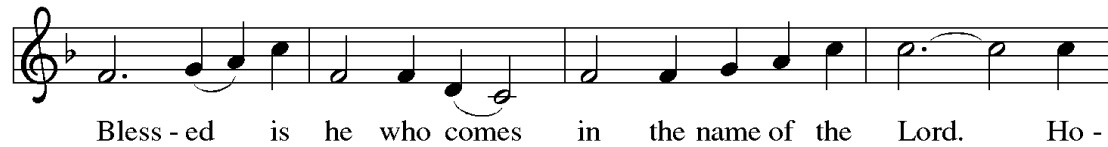
A The Lord be with you.  
C **And also with you.**

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

A Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

### Holy, Holy, Holy



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## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.  
You are most holy,  
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will  
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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



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Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
 his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,  
 and the promise of his coming again,  
 we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
 not as we ought but as we are able;  
 we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
 and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
 and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
 so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
 may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
 and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
 may be formed to live as your holy people  
 and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
 be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

### Amen



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### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

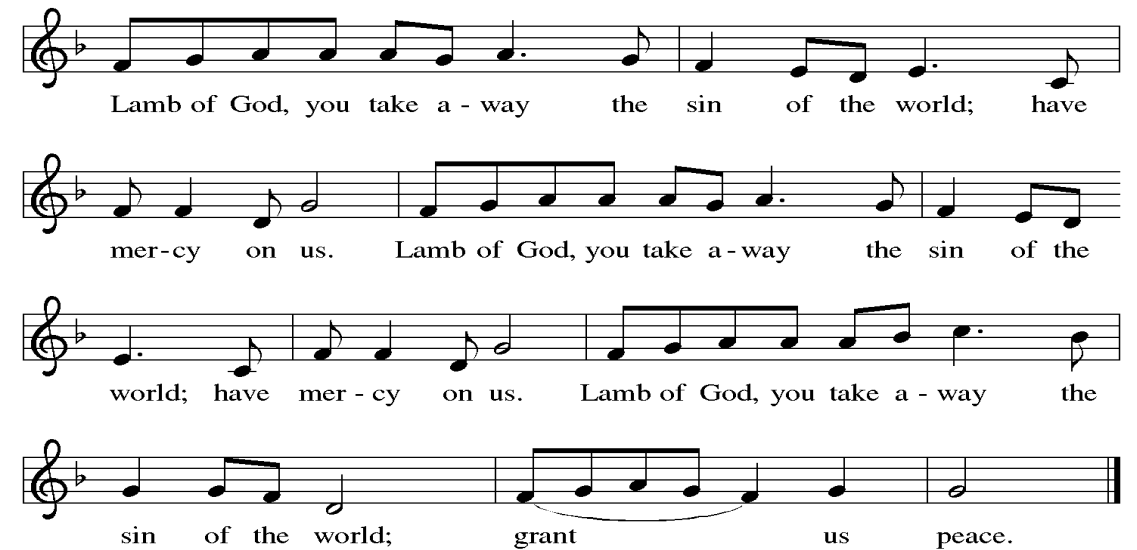
**For thine is the kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory,  
 forever and ever. Amen.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus said, "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

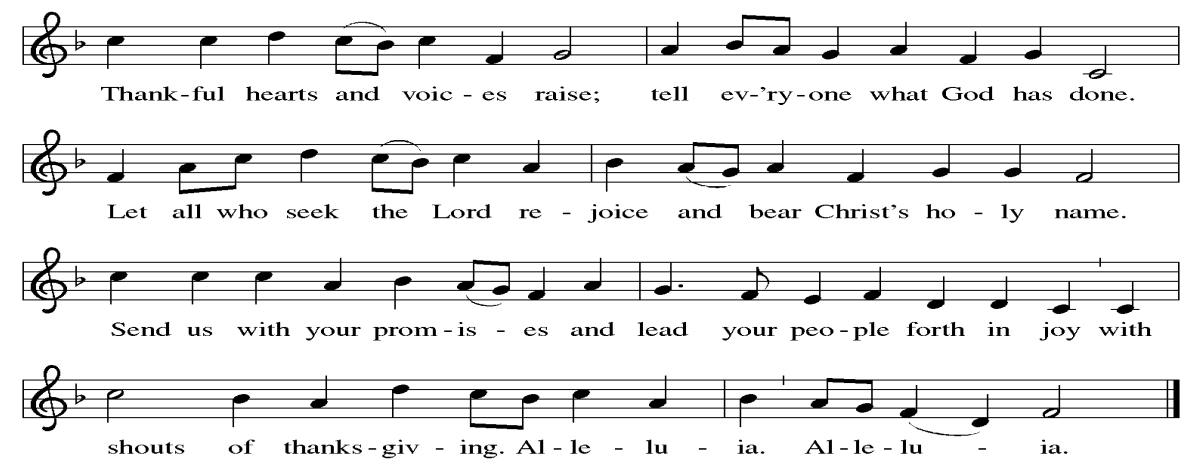
*During the distribution the congregation and choir shall join in singing **Lamb of God***



*Please continue singing during distribution of communion the following hymns: ELW 719, 480, 686.*

### + POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

#### Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF September 6 - 13, 2015

Sunday	10:30 am.	Holy Communion
Monday		Happy Labor Day
		Office Closed
Tuesday	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Brunot – Sanctuary
	10:00 am. – 12:00 pm.	Chat-n-Sew
	1:00 pm.	Parkinson's Support Group
	7:00 pm.	Mutual Ministry Meeting
	7:00 pm.	Personnel Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 pm.	Evangelism
	7:00 pm.	Troop 416
Thursday	7:00 pm.	Caravan 8
Friday	10:00 – 3:00 pm.	NO Bridge Club
Saturday	5:30 pm.	Holy Communion
Sunday	8:30 am.	Holy Communion
	9:00 am.	Senior Choir
	9:30 am.	Camp Genesis
	9:30 am.	Fellowship Meeting
	9:30 am.	Coffee Hour
	10:30 am.	Holy Communion
	3:00 pm.	Grade 6 – 12 Youth Group Picnic at Wolfe Residence
	5:30 pm.	Troop 416 Patrol
	6:00 pm.	Pack 416 Committee
	7:00 pm.	Troop 416 Committee
	7:00 pm.	Soccer Referees

Two Sunday morning services (8:30 am. & 10:30 am.) resume on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Coffee Hour at 9:30 am.

**Please be considerate to those around you and observe silence during the prelude and service. This time is designed for personal meditation.**

We are in need of a Chairperson for the Evangelism Committee, the Stewardship Committee and Vacation Bible School. If you would like to consider serving Good Shepherd in this capacity, please let Pastor Frank or the church office know.

The office will be closed on Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> in observance of Labor Day.

There will be a Fellowship Meeting on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> during Coffee Hour.

Camp Genesis will Kick off on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.

Grades 6 – 12 Youth Group Picnic – September 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm at Dave & Kathy Wolfe's house.

Bible Study resumes Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00 pm.

### **WELCA - First meeting for the Fall Season**

**All women are invited to our Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> Covered Dish Dinner at 6:00 pm. at the church. Bring your favorite casserole to share (Drinks will be provided). Join us for an evening of fellowship and games, if you have a game to share with us, bring it. We will find players for you. Sign up sheet will be in the commons area. See you then.**

The Greensburg Lions are once again collecting used eyeglasses and hearing aids to be reconditioned for a new life. If you have any old glasses or hearing aids that you would like to donate, drop them off in the office.