

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS
605 South Center Street
Bremen, Indiana 46506
574.546.2332
stpaulsbremen.church

The theme for the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost is extremely mission oriented. Pentecost being the season in which the Church focuses on the activity of the Holy Spirit in extending the kingdom of Christ through the work and service of the Christian Church on earth, the mission of the Church ought to be front and center in the Pentecost season and it is in our sermon text today. We especially welcome our school families today!

The Lord's Supper is a very special privilege God gives to His people. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because the Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. If you are not partaking of the Lord's Supper but would like to receive a blessing, please come up to the communion rail when sent by an elder, kneel, and cross your arms over your chest. The Pastor will then know that you desire a blessing.

In Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." We welcome children and all the joy and little chatter that comes with them. If for any reason you want to take your little one out, there is a

Nursery (Cry Room) available for use during our worship service. It is located just outside the sanctuary.

Worship Guide

Lutherans like to say that in worship God serves us, not because we're so good but because what God gives is for our good. So we call worship the Divine Service, where God serves us His gifts of Word and Sacrament to enlighten our hearts and forgive. The hopeful response is our thanksgiving and praise. The order of worship is called liturgy, it dates back to the Old Testament. Jesus Christ fulfilled and even established new promises for us that to this day our worship intentionally highlights in great repetition. For more information look up the Bible references.

Opening Hymn 901 "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

- In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19b)
- **G** Amen.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **©** who made heaven and earth.

(Psalm 124:8)

- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** (Psalm 130:3-3)
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying:

 God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

 (Luke 18:13)
- Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- Amen.

Elective Youth Choir "God Really Loves Us"

1. I've got a friend Closer than a brother There is no judgement Oh, how He loves me I've got a friend And He is my strength He is my portion With me in the valley With me in the fire With me in the storm Let all my life testify What a Father, what a Friend What a Savior He is What a Father, what a Friend What a Savior He is **Refrain:**

Refrain:

Hallelujah
We are not alone
God really loves us
God really loves us
Hallelujah
Oh, praise my soul
God really loves us
God really loves us

What a Father, what a Friend What a Savior He is (Repeat)

2. His mercy's enough
His grace is sufficient
So come if you're needing
Forgiveness or healing
His mercy's enough
Oh, and this is our hope
The cross, it has spoken
Death is no more
Christ is the Lord
Oh, this is our hope, yeah

Refrain:

(feat. Maverick City Music) Songwriters: Ben Glover, David Crowder, Jeff Sojka, Dante Bowe.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Introit

Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16; antiphon: v. 17

- P I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving
- and call on the name of the LORD.
- P What shall I render to the LORD
- for all His benefits to me?
- **P** I will lift up the cup of salvation
- and call on the name of the LORD.
- P Precious in the sight of the LORD
- **G** is the death of His saints.
- P O LORD, I am Your servant;
- I am Your servant, the son of Your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

- P I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving
- and call on the name of the LORD.



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Gloria in Excelsis ~ Glory to God in the Highest LSB 204 (Luke 2:14; John 1:29)



2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa-ther's Son, we pray; 3 For You a-lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!

O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.

For - ev - er and for - ev - er. Be wor-shiped and a - dored:



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply. Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 205

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)

And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

⁶ Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near;
⁷ let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.
⁸ For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the LORD.
⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts."

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

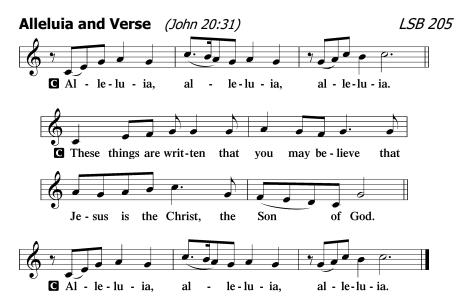
¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your

account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in Him but also suffer for His sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Jesus said: "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others

standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' 5So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' 8And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' 9And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saving, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' 16So the last will be first, and the first last."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

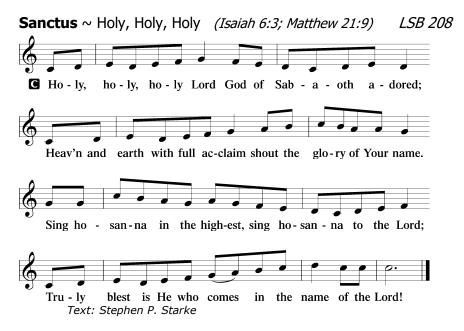
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn 837 "Lift High the 0	Cross"
Sermon Text	Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30
Sermon "My Imprisonment	: Is for Christ"
Paul Invites Us to Join Him in S Christ."	Saying, "My Imprisonment Is for
1. Paul tells us his imprisonmer	nt is for the
	·
2. Paul sees his imprisonment a	as a to proclaim
the Gospel boldly as well.	
3. And if we, too, proclaim the	Gospel, we, too, should be ready to
be imprisoned	
Hymn 839 "O Christ, Our	True and Only Light"
Prayers	
→ SERVICE OF	THE SACRAMENT 1
Preface	LSB 208
The Lord be with you.And also with you.	(2 Timothy 4:22)
P Lift up your hearts.G We lift them to the Lord	d. (Colossians 3:1)
P Let us give thanks to the L	ord our God.

(Psalm 136)

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saving:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

LSB 209

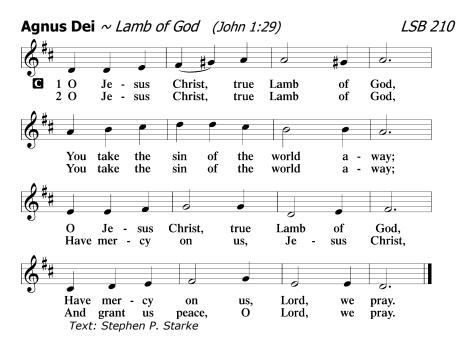
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

(1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

Pax Domini ~ The Peace of the Lord (John 20:19)

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- **G** Amen.



Adult Choir "Communion Hymn"

We have come, O Lord, this day to the table where the feast is spread, drawn together by Your love, sharing now Your body and blood. You're the hope, You're the strength, and in all that we do, You're the One we serve.

Guide our feet, lift us up, and give us courage to live.

We shall eat and not be hungry. We shall drink and never thirst.

We shall do this in remembrance of the time You shared it first.

We have come, O Lord, this day

to the table where the feast is spread, drawn together by Your love, sharing now the cup, sharing now Your body and blood.

We live, O Lord, this day to You.

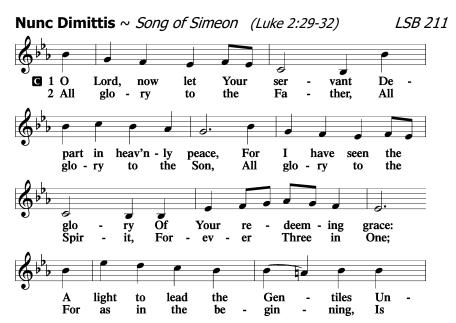
~ Words & Music by Mark Weston ~

Hymn 625 "Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread"

Hymn 634 "The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord"

Hymn 620 "Jesus Comes Today with Healing"

Hymn 623 "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"





Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Benedicamus ~ Let Us Bless (Psalm 103:1)

LSB 212

- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and

→ give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn 660 "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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The flowers on the altar are placed by Bob & Nancy Koontz with thankful hearts for their God-centered marriage of 60 years.

Thank you for your prayers for my nephew and his children as they trust Jesus' promise, "I am the Resurrection and the Life." - Anita Eichinger

The family of Aubrey Tacheny would like to thank everyone for the prayers and cards. Aubrey is home from Riley and is on the mend. We praise our Lord for His faithfulness.

Calendar of Events

TODAY	September 24, 2023	
Sunday School & Bible Classes	8:30 am	
Worship Service with Communion		
Church & School Picnic	11:00 am-3:00 pm	
Bell Choir Practice	5:00 pm	
Adult Choir Practice	6:00 pm	
MON: No School (Virtual Day)		
Parish Fellowship Meeting	10:30 am	
Parish Planning Council Strategic Planning Meeting	g7:00 pm	
TUES:		
Pastor Wonnacott at the Whitlock	10:30 am	
WED:		
Day School/Preschool Chapel	11:00 am	
LifeLight	6:45-8:15 pm	
Youth Night	7:00-8:00 pm	
THURS:		
Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study	9:30 am	
New Member 2.0 Class	7:00 pm	
FRI: Bremen Octoberfest at Sunnyside Park		
SAT: Bremen Octoberfest at Sunnyside Park		
NEXT SUNDAY – LWML Sunday	October 1, 2023	
Sunday School & Bible Classes	8:30 am	
Worship Service	9:30 am	
Scrip Day		
LWML Zone Rally – Redeemer, Warsaw	1:30 pm	
Adult Basketball	2:00-4:00 pm	
Bell Choir Practice	5:00 pm	
Adult Choir Practice	6:00 pm	

Don't forget that Parish Fellowship will meet tomorrow, Monday, September 25th at 10:30 am.

The October-December Portals of Prayer and Hope-Full Living devotionals are now available in the tract rack located in the Narthex.

Church and School Picnic

The Annual Church and School Picnic is today, September 24th, following the church service! Hot dogs, condiments, drinks, and table service will be provided. Please bring a side dish if you are a church member, or a dessert if you are a school family, to share. Also bring chairs, blankets, and roasting sticks. Activities include Bingo (bring 2 wrapped white elephant gifts) and a bouncy house for the kids! If you didn't get a chance to bring anything, no worries, please come anyway – we always have plenty! Come enjoy this time of fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Check it out! Don't miss the church and school library cart in the narthex today. This week we are adding several books that are Infographic Guides. They include "Infographic Guide to the Old Testament. "We have from the beginning of Creation to 5 Predictions of the Coming Jesus. There are Infographic Books that tell about Bible villains, Biblical Landmarks from Mt. Ararat to Gethsemane. Another Bible Infographics Book for kids talk about Giants, Ninja Skills, A Talking Donkey and What's the Deal with the Tabernacle? A third Infographic Book gives an Epic Guide to Jesus: Prodigals, Samaritans, Burritos and How to Walk on Water. We have also included new books. Mike Lindell, the owner of My Pillow writes his biography "From Crack Addict to CEO. Todd Nettleton writes about 40 Days on the Front Lines with Persecuted Christians. (The Voice of the Martyrs.) Finally, we have added two devotional books: "Each Day with Jesus" and "Every Day with the Savior."

Octoberfest is coming up - September 29th and 30th and we need your help. First, we need people to make individually wrapped Cookies (see Pastor Wonnacott for the bags). Second, we need people to serve at the booth at the fest. Parish Fellowship is teaming with the Evangelism Board for this event. We will be selling the cookies (by free will offering) and giving the proceeds to Riley Children's Hospital. We need the cookies on Pastor Wonnacott's porch by September 28th. Prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve. For those people who plan to serve at the booth, a sign-up sheet is on the back table in the Narthex.

For those who would like to give their offerings to the Lord electronically, there is a QR Code link posted next to the offering box in the Narthex.

<u>Special Concerns:</u> That we would see the apostle Paul as an example that when trial or persecution comes it is for the extension of Christ's kingdom and the saving message of the Gospel.

For the family and friends of Roy Frank Jr. who was called to his eternal home on Monday. Roy was the father of our 1st grade teacher, Wendy Patterson.

For Pastor Rafael & Jamielynn Flores and Pastor Micah Wildauer and their work in foreign missions.

For the Lord's guidance in calling a new Administrative Pastor. That the Lord would bless our offerings that we give today. For our country and her leaders.

For grace and healing to all Christians who suffer the trials of this world as they shine the light of their risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

South Bend Zone Rally, LWML SUNDAY, October 1, at Redeemer, Warsaw (1720 E. Center Street). Registration 1:30 pm. Program 2:00 pm: speaker Renea Snyder of Beaman Home (domestic abuse shelter). Ingathering: College style bathroom caddies, small round laundry baskets, large heavy duty trash bags, small disposable cups, small disposable condiment cups with lids, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, liquid fabric softener, coffee, creamer, paper towels, Food Saver-Vacuum Food Sealer bags.

Light supper afterward (donation requested). All ladies are invited.

LWML, October 2, at St Paul's, 7:00 pm, Bethany Room. Speaker: Joseph Collins, AD, Alzheimer's & Dementia Services of Northern Indiana. **OPEN TO THE CONGREGATION** (yes, men, too!). Refreshments afterward.

The Hospitality Group will be making pork roast, mashed potatoes & gravy, and apple crisp on Wednesday, October 11th for our church and community shut-ins. We usually pack around 50 meals and are in need of donations of unseasoned pork roast, potatoes, and apple crisp ingredients. Monetary donations are also accepted to help purchase items. Please see Beth Enders or Sandie Schooler if you have any questions. Once again, thank you to everyone for your donations. May the Lord continue to bless you as you have been a blessing to others with your generosity.

SCHOOL CORNER

Check out the puzzle project located by Principal Miller's office in the school hallway! Since our school theme for 2023-24 is "Connected", the

students and staff of the preschool and day school have decorated puzzle pieces representing our connection to each other and Christ. Thank you, Heidi Wildauer, for overseeing this project!

The students *connected* with God's creation at Camp Lutherhaven this week. Activities included canoeing, archery, hiking, building campfires, and, of course, devotions and singing.

Thank you, elective school choir, for sharing your gift of singing with us today! This choir is comprised of students in grades 3rd- 8th, and meets on Thursday mornings before school, directed by Heidi Wildauer.

Please join us for the School and Church picnic TODAY after service.

St. Paul's Schools will have a Virtual Day tomorrow, with in-person preschool or day school.

We thank you for your continued prayers this school year.

Please remember to give to the SGO!

We will continue to use SGO scholarships to assist with tuition, so please continue to give, and remember you will receive a tax credit and deduction for your donations!

You can find several (easy) ways to donate at www.lutheranSGO.org/Donate. Donations can be given through a check, IRA, stocks, Donor Advised Funds, PayPal, credit card, and NOW electronic giving! Benefits to you are a 50% state tax credit for your donation and eligibility for a tax deduction. These scholarships make a big difference for our families.

We also continue to take donations to St. Paul's tuition assistance fund. Checks for tuition assistance can be made out to the church.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Nights: We have one Fall Youth Night remaining on Wednesday, September 27th from 7-8 pm. This is for all Youth in Grades 4 through High School - St. Paul's Youth are encouraged to bring a friend to join in a fun activity and Christian fellowship before we end with a snack and brief devotion.

Upcoming Community Service: We are collecting 16 oz. jars of peanut butter at Youth Nights that we will donate to the Bremen Bags organization that helps feed children in need within the Bremen community. This is a wonderful opportunity for our Youth to give back

to those around us, as Christ outlines in speaking with his followers in Matthew 25 (the basis for our weekly devotion at Youth Nights). Our Youth will be serving at Bremen Bags on Tuesday, October 17th at 6:30 pm (more information to come).

From the Board of Evangelism Mission Committee:

Looking for a unique gift for Christmas or decoration for your home? Sometime near Thanksgiving or the first week of December, we will have Haitian tin art for sale. Most of the pieces will be Christmas themed and all of the proceeds will go to help the teachers who are supported through Mission Haiti in Jeremie. The teachers are each given \$50.00 a month to help support their families. It is critical to keep these schools open not only to feed the children physically but also to feed them spiritually. Along with their education, the children are given a meal at school which many times is the only meal they get. Additionally, the gift of the gospel that they receive feeds their soul and is taken home to their parents. These children are little disciples for Christ. More information will be coming in October and November. Please keep Mission Haiti and the people of Haiti in your prayers.

Below is a sample of what Haitian tin art looks like:



Servants for Today's Worship September 24 2023

Rev. Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Paul Wonnacott & Joe Hughes

Acolyte: Abby Wildauer

Elder: Larry Britt

Communion Assistant: Mike Gumz Video Streamer: Bruce Schmidt

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship October 1, 2023

Rev. Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)

Organist: Ellen Augustine

Ushers: Mark Wildauer & Curt Nielsen

Acolyte: Avery Cannon Elder: Terry Miller

Video Streamer: Paul Wonnacott