

The Central Christian 411

Volume 13, Issue 36

September 7, 2022



1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service,¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost.¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life.¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Paul says he received **mercy**. But how can one describe **mercy**? Perhaps like this incident during the Second World War:

An American pilot glanced outside his cockpit and froze. He blinked hard and looked again, hoping it was just a mirage. But his co-pilot stared at the same horrible vision.

“Dear God, this is a nightmare,” the co-pilot said.

“He’s going to destroy us,” the pilot agreed.

The men were looking at a gray German Messerschmitt fighter hovering just three feet off their wingtip. It was five days before Christmas 1943, and the fighter had closed in on their crippled American B-17 bomber for the kill.

The B-17 pilot, Charles Brown, was a 21-year-old West Virginia farm boy on his first combat mission. His bomber had been shot to pieces by swarming fighters, and his plane was alone in the skies above Germany. Half his crew was wounded, and the tail gunner was dead, his blood frozen in icicles over the machine guns.

But when Brown and his co-pilot, Spencer “Pinky” Luke, looked at the fighter pilot again, something odd happened. The German didn’t pull the trigger. He nodded mercifully at Brown instead and let him go free. What happened next was one of the most remarkable acts of chivalry recorded during World War II. Years later, Brown would track down his would-be German executioner for a reunion that reduced both men to tears after the war was over.

MERCY triumphed over hate.

May Our Merciful God Watch Over You, Wes



CONTINUING ON
SUNDAY, SEPT. 11TH

THE CIRCUS CHARADE REHEARSALS!!

All cast members need to be present on

the 11th, at 5:00 p.m.

We will:

Memorize Scene II p. 6-11



WE ANNOUNCED IN OUR SERVICE A
FEW WEEKS AGO

WE WILL NO LONGER LEAVE THE
ALLEY DOOR TO THE SANCTUARY
BUILDING UNLOCKED

DUE TO UNWANTED GUESTS WHO
MAKE THEIR HOME UPSTAIRS.

IF YOU ARE A KEY HOLDER,
PLEASE DO NOT
UNLOCK THE ALLEY DOOR.



The Season of Creation begins on September 1, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on September 30.

Individuals and communities are invited to participate through prayer, sustainability projects and advocacy.

- Prayer: Host an ecumenical prayer gathering that unites all Christians for the care of our common home.
- Sustainability: Lead a cleanup project that helps all of creation thrive.

Advocacy: Raise your voice for climate justice by participating in or leading an ongoing campaign, such as the fossil fuel divestment movement.

We invite you to plan your own participation for the season. As a first step, visit seasonofcreation.org.

For this year, the proposed theme is: “Listening to the voice of creation” with the symbol of the burning bush. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many have become familiar with the concept of being silenced in conversations. Many voices are silenced in the public discourse on climate change and the ethics of Earth conservation.

They are voices of those who suffer the impacts of climate change. They are voices of people who possess ancestral wisdom about how to live with gratitude within the limits of Earth. They are voices of a diminishing diversity of species rather than humans. It is the voice of the Earth.

Taking action during the Season of Creation is living out our faith.

The Church, following the teachings of Jesus, from the Social Doctrine, throughout time has exhorted believers to work for the common good, which requires dignifying life in all its forms, caring for the common home, committing to the construction of more just, supportive, fraternal and peaceful societies, among other fundamental aspects.

Often, when we speak of creation, it is related to nature, animals, landscapes, the sun, the moon, but rarely do we become aware that the human being is the culmination of the God’s creative work, *“God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good.”* (Gen 1:31), Scripture states, implying that God, after the creation of man and woman, is pleased to see all their work.

In this regard, it is important to mention in the Bible there are several references to the creative work of the God, who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them (Rom 4:24) and, moreover, lovingly arranges everything to sustain and promote harmony: *“Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them”* (Mt 6:26).

In other words, he is not only a creator God, but a loving God who tenderly cares for the work of his hands and has a vision of fraternity for all humanity.

Accordingly, **the Season of Creation is a celebration that allows all people to recognize ourselves as “the work of the Lord’s creative act,”** to contemplate nature and all that dwells in it, and to care for our Common Home.

It is necessary for all believers to join in the celebration of the Season of Creation. Since *“[what was good in the eyes of God has become an exploitable thing in the hands of man](#)”*, and it is urgent as Church we implement concrete actions towards care and preservation.



COMING TUESDAY,

SEPTEMBER 13TH

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

GENERAL MEETING

We will meet in the

COMMUNITY ROOM

at 11:30 a.m.

We will be having a salad luncheon, so please bring a salad or something to go with salad and join in our fellowship together.

Our monthly service project is Harvest Texarkana.

Please bring can or boxed goods.



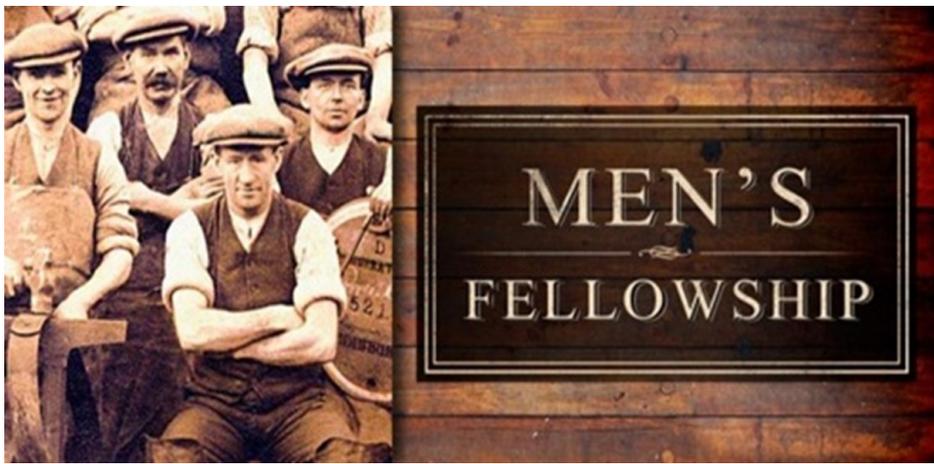
HOPE REMAINS WILL MEET TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 13TH,
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM

It has been said, “We never truly get over a loss, but we can move forward and evolve from it.” While this is true, it is a process many of us never fully move through, especially if we experience the loss of a child. So often, we get “stuck” in a stage of grief and remain there. This is the reason groups that deal with grief are so important; they help us move through the stages so we can move forward and evolve. Sadly, such groups are often not advertised, promoted, or supported by local organizations.

Here at Central Christian Church, we are very blessed to have such a group and we want to promote this organizations work. The ***Hope Remains*** Chapter of Texarkana meets in the Community Room on the ***2nd Tuesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m.*** The focus is for parents and grandparents grieving the loss of a child or grandchild.

The mission of Hope Remains is to offer a safe place where any and all emotions may be freely expressed. There may be tears shed at the meetings. There may be laughter and smiles shared as precious memories of a child, grandchild, or sibling is recalled. And there will always be acceptance, friendship and hope offered at the meetings.

If you have suffered the loss of a child or grandchild and wish to join this greatly needed organization, please contact [Cindy Sanford at \(903\) 280-4130](tel:9032804130).



THE
CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP
(CMF)

WILL BE MEETING

Saturday, September 17th

**at 9:00 A.M. in the
Community Room**

We encourage all of our men to be
present.

What's Been Happening in Disciples Men?

It has been quite a while since we published the last edition of *The Voice of Disciples Men*. Alex and I sincerely apologize for that. Rest assured, since the last publication, much has been happening in the world of Disciples Men.

Disciples Men is a very part-time ministry for both Alex and me. That is not by our choice or the choice of Disciples Home Missions. It is a reflection of the financial realities denominations as a whole are facing. Alex and I both have other ministry responsibilities beyond Disciples Men. So, passion, not profit, drives our desire to serve. This reality requires us to prioritize our time in ways that, we believe, provide the best return.

Beyond our weekly Zoom meetings, we devoted our time to the following.

The Jesus Way Journey was first released in 2020. We published it as a pdf rather than going through the normal "book" publishing process to reduce the cost to the church and to allow for easy revisions as warranted. Since its release, we have received great feedback on how to make it better. So, Alex and I took a hard look at the materials, line by line. We incorporated much of the feedback received, and we discovered other changes that would strengthen the resource.

Now, as of this week, that work is completed. The 2022 Edition of *The Jesus Way* is available for purchase. We are very excited about this newly revised resource for men's ministry and encourage you to prayerfully consider using it in your congregation.

The Disciples Men's Podcast continues to be a wonderful opportunity for Alex and me to introduce the work of Disciples Men to the wonderful leaders of our church and to introduce these wonderful leaders to all of you. Each leader we have interviewed has been very supportive of our work and committed to supporting this ministry in any way that they can.

In addition, Alex and I use the podcast to introduce current and pertinent topics that impact our work as Disciples Men. We want us to wrestle with the question, how is God calling us to respond to these challenges if we are to be faithful to God?

Thanks to Alex's diligent work, *Disciples Men's Podcast* is now available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Amazon Music/Audible. Just go to your favorite podcast app, search for Disciples Men and click to become a follower. Here is a list of our most recent podcasts:

Rev. Angele Saunders Johnson, the new Director of Disciples Women;
Touchstones (3 available) - a series of podcasts unpacking the five touchstones that now ground the ministry of the General Conference of Disciples Men;
Patriarchy, White Supremacy, and their Impact on Men's Ministries.

Upcoming podcasts include conversations about the remaining two Touchstones, an interview with new Disciples Home Missions President Dr. Chris Dorsey, and the wonderful work of the Executive Committee of the General Conference of Disciples Men. There is much good news to share coming from the GCDM.

Alex and I continue to keynote regional men's events in-person and by Zoom. It has been a real blessing to return to face-to-face gatherings this year.

In the final stages of production is a new video podcast entitled, "Contexts and Contrasts." It is our intent to use this resource to make the case for revitalizing congregational men's ministries. Stay tuned!

On the drawing board is a new pilot ministry. Alex and I will host a weekly men's study by way of Zoom. There will be no cost to participate. Seating will be limited and require men to sign up to reserve a seat. We plan to do a trial run of four to six weeks to test the waters for interest and format. Then, using the feedback we receive, we will decide if the interest is sufficient to warrant making this a regular feature of Disciples Men.

DISCIPLES MEN PODCAST

Please join Greg and Alex as they discuss issues related to men's ministry from a variety of perspectives. Listen to their conversations with Disciples leaders as they explore the importance of a dynamic men's ministry among Disciples. You will find the Disciples Men Podcast on your favorite podcast sites: [Apple Podcast](#), [Spotify](#) and/or [Amazon Music/Audible](#)



Dear Church Family,

We are reaching out to you to remind you our church is alive and well but remains in need of your support. We realize these are difficult days but the ministry of our church presses on. In the past month we have had two water heaters break, replaced a freezer in our Disciple Hall kitchen, an increase in our electric bill due to the restoration equipment used in the Education Building, an issue with our phone system and air conditioning problems in the parlor and sanctuary. We need your support to repair and replace the necessary items and to pay the increase in our electric bill for the upkeep of our beautiful building.

As a reminder, there are a number of ways in which you may send the needed support:

1. Label your offering as **special gift**.
2. Mail your check via USPS in the enclosed addressed envelope.
3. Online banking, if you use it.
4. Go to the church with money or check in an envelope and drop it in the mail slot located by the entrance to the Admin. Offices.
5. Use Givelify. If you use this method, please be sure to find Central Christian Church, **Texarkana**.

Although we are preparing for the upcoming stewardship drive, this need is immediate and would be above and beyond your yearly commitment. We hope you and your family are well. Thank you for your faithfulness in supporting our church and God bless.

The Stewardship Committee



NOW AVAILABLE!!!

OUR BEAUTIFUL

CCC BALL CAP

AND

T-SHIRT

CAN BE YOURS FOR

ONLY \$20 EACH!!!

To purchase your

CCC Ball Cap

and

T-Shirt

Call or come by the

Admin. Office today!!!



In our Sanctuary/Education building we have three areas where we try to maintain an energy efficient temperature; that can be adjusted as needed. These areas are the sanctuary, the parlor, and HeBrews. Each area has their own controls.

In an attempt to help us control the cost of heating and cooling our Sanctuary/Education building we are asking everyone to help keep doors in these areas shut at all times. When doors are left open, the heat goes up the staircases to the hallway and upper rooms and the A/C goes into rooms we are not using downstairs.

The parlor has two doors we need to keep closed, HeBrews has two doors into hallway we need to keep closed, and the kitchen door to the hallway we need to keep closed. In the area where the water fountain and women's restroom are, the door going up the steps into back of the sanctuary and the door in the hallway leading to HeBrews need to be kept closed.

With everyone's help we can save on the cost of gas and electricity.

Thank You!

Your Property Committee



***The Journey Sunday School Class
will continue our study of***

1 John

We hope you will join us.

***The Journey class* meets **in the**
Library in the
Community Center.**

The **First Epistle of John** is the first of the Johannine epistles of the New Testament, and the fourth of the catholic epistles. There is no scholarly consensus as to the authorship of the Johannine works. The author of the First Epistle is termed John the Evangelist, who most scholars believe is not the same as John the Apostle. Most scholars believe the three Johannine epistles have the same author, but there is no consensus if this was also the author of the Gospel of John.

This epistle was probably written in Ephesus between 95 and 110 AD. The author advises Christians on how to discern true teachers: by their ethics, their proclamation of Jesus in the flesh, and by their love. The original text was written in Koine Greek. The epistle is divided into five chapters.



THE
SEEKERS
SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

meets every Sunday morning at 9:40
a.m. to discuss the Bible.

We have spirited discussions along with great class
participation on lessons from *The Present Word*
study book

You are invited to join with us each Sunday.
We are located in the Education Building next to
HeBrews.



The **TNT** Sunday School Class
is continuing its study of

**THE BOOK OF
GOSPEL OF JOHN**

We study various books of the Bible
and recently completed the
BOOK OF EPHESIANS.

If you enjoy a wide range study of scripture, we would
love to have you join us
in class or **on FACEBOOK.**

We meet every Sunday in the Community Room.



BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP EVERY MONDAY

VIA

OUR CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BE POSTED **BY 4:00 P.M.**

AND

YOU WILL BE ABLE TO VIEW IT

EACH AND EVERY MONDAY ON FACEBOOK.

REMEMBER:

WATCH WORSHIP ON MONDAYS **AT 4:00 P.M.**

ON

OUR CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CCCTXK/](https://www.facebook.com/ccctxk/)



COMMUNION FOR SHELTER IN PLACE

We have communion juice and wafers for all. If you would like to come by the Church Office to get a cup with wafer, just let us know when you're coming.

These are single serve like this:



Again, we have plenty for all, just call!

903-792-1915



Honorariums/Memorials

JUST A REMINDER

HONORARIUM

&

MEMORIAL

GIFTS ARE WELCOME

ANYTIME.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GIVE AN

HONORARIUM OR MEMORIAL

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK TO CCC

WITH A NOTE STATING WHO YOUR

HONORARIUM OR MEMORIAL

IS IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF.

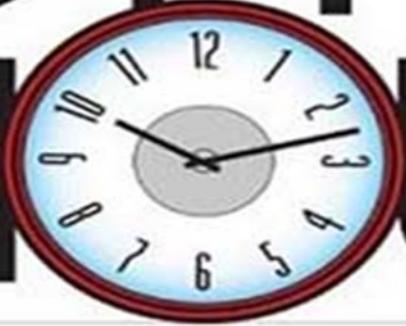


FLOWERS!!!!

Be sure to purchase flowers for
the sanctuary to honor
Friends or Family or
in memory of a loved one.

The cost is only
\$40.

OFFICE HOURS



JUST A REMINDER TO OUR CONGREGATION

OUR

OFFICE HOURS

ARE

8 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY



If you are looking for a safe way to give to the church, download the “Givelify” app onto your phone.

You can find it at the [App Store](#) or at the [Google Play Store](#) under:

“Givelify Mobile Giving App.”

Our church is listed, and this is a safe and fast way to give. Please

be sure you find

Central Christian Church Texarkana.

411 REMINDER

Just a reminder that any articles you would like to submit for publication in the 411 must be submitted to the office **no later than noon** on Tuesdays.

After that time, we cannot guarantee your article will be published.

Day & Time may vary during holidays

CHURCH BULLETIN

Any information you will like in the Church Bulletin must be submitted to the office no later than 10am on Fridays

Day & Time may vary during holidays.



DO YOU PREFER RECEIVING TEXT MESSAGE OR PHONE CALL REMINDERS FOR MEETINGS?

Central Christian will be sending out text messages and phone calls to remind members of upcoming meetings and inform every one of prayer needs.

If you would like to receive text messages, please text ccctxk to 292929, as shown above, to have your number put on our list.

If you do not receive text messages but would like to be added to our call list, please email or call the church office at (903) 792-1915 and let Tonya know.

Upcoming Events & Services

September 11	11:45am	Fellowship Committee
September 11	5pm	Play Rehearsal
September 13	11:30am	CWF Day Group
September 13	5:30pm	Choir
September 13	6pm	Hope Remains Grief Support Group
September 17	9am	CMF
September 18	11:45am	3rd Sunday Potluck
September 18	5pm	Play Rehearsal
September 20	5:30pm	Choir
September 25	4pm	Randy Sams Prep
September 25	5pm	Play Rehearsal
September 25	6pm	Randy Sams drop off
September 26	6pm	General Board Meeting
September 27	5:30pm	Choir



Be sure to keep up-to-date
with Church Activities

By visiting

www.ccctxk.com

to see what's new!

Our site is easy to navigate and
there is a lot of information.



PRAYER LIST

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT PRAYER LIST

In recent discussions with the Southwest Region, it has come to our attention “The Prayer List” may be cause for litigation if we place people on it that have not given their personal consent to be placed on it.

It is a violation of HIPAA Law to release information about anyone without their personal consent. Therefore, we ask that you not call requesting that a “friend” be placed on the list unless you have their consent.

THANK YOU.

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

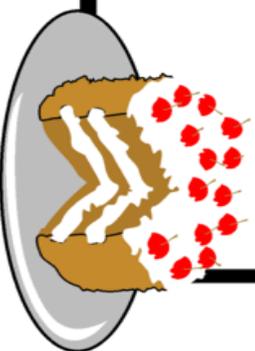
				1	2	3
4 9am Elders in Prayer 9:40am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship 5pm Play Rehearsal	5 office closed	6 5pm Events Committee	7	8	9	10 9am CMF
11 9am Elders in Prayer 9:40am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship 11:45am Fellowship Comm. 5pm Play Rehearsal	12	13 11:30am CWF Day Group 5:30pm Choir 6pm Hope Remains Grief Support Group	14	15	16	17
18 9am Elders in Prayer 9:40am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship 11:45am 3rd Sunday potluck 5pm Play Rehearsal	19	20 5:30pm Choir	21	22	23	24
25 9am Elders in Prayer 9:40am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship 4pm Randy Sams Prep 5pm Play Rehearsal 6pm Randy Sams drop off	26 6pm General Board	27 5:30pm Choir	28	29	30	

September Birthdays

Jack Duncan	9-4
Philip Stover	9-7
Dorothy Alves	9-8
Caroline Crain	9-10
Jack Carter	9-11
Julia Carpenter	9-16
Teresa Crow	9-18
Sondra Bedwell	9-20
Tim Nash	9-22
Jack Fisher	9-27

September Anniversaries

Robert & Alice Kern 9-7



Servers for the Weeks Ahead

September 4, 2022

Greeters: John & Margie Beeson
Worship Leader: Sondra Bedwell
Hospital Elder: Connie Spears
Flower Elder: Jim Spears
Deacons:

September 11, 2022

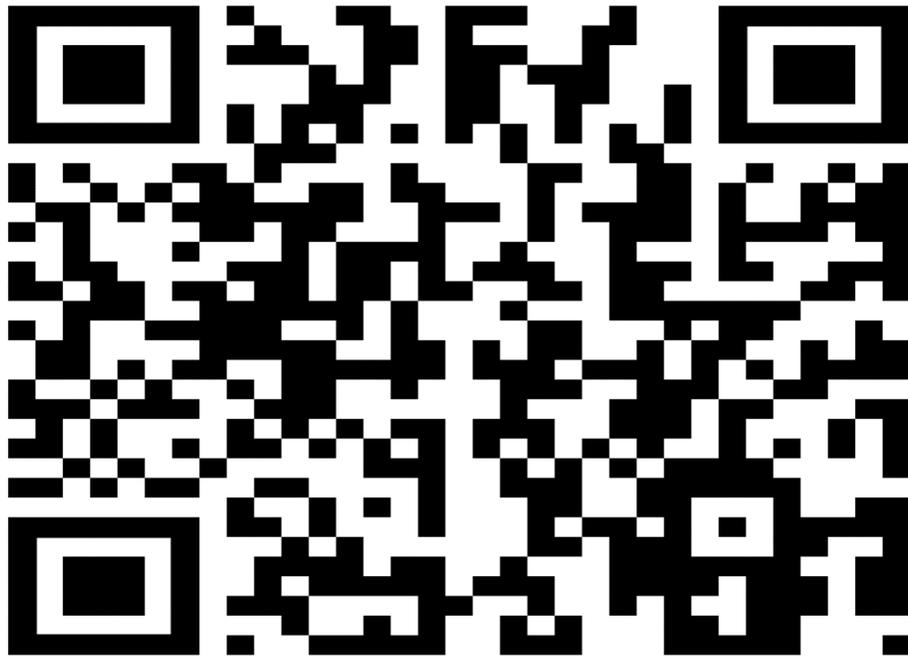
Greeters: George & Julia Carpenter
Worship Leader: Lee Nailing
Hospital Elder: Robert Kern
Flower Elder: Alice Kern
Deacons:

September 18, 2022

Greeters: Jack & Joan Carter
Worship Leader: Michael Martin
Hospital Elder: Joan Carter
Flower Elder: Jack Carter
Deacons:

September 25, 2022

Greeters: Betty Caudle & Midge Cooney
Worship Leader: Tom Crow
Hospital Elder: Julia Carpenter
Flower Elder: George Carpenter
Deacons:



SCAN THIS
QR CODE
TO SEE
OUR
CHURCH VIDEO!

SHOW
FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

Weekly Info

Prayer Need

Our Church
Wes Byas
Family of Harvey Fredriksson
Mack Thomas
Linda Harris
Steve Turney, Cara Fowler's father
Jean Nailling
Fran Corley, friend of Betsy Spencer
Chris McKellar, friend of George Carpenter
Tommy Campbell, friend of Hamilton's
Nancy Garner, friend of Herb and Elaine Hamilton

Ongoing Concerns

John Cunningham
Bobbie Roberts, Pat Taylor's mom
Laroy and Jane Thomas, friend of Jerry Thomas
David Allard, Glenda Burkhart's brother-in-law
Davis Coker, friend of Julia Carpenter
Mandi Whisenhunt Smith, Randy King's niece

Homebound

Elaine Carpenter, The Villa Rm. 401
Joe Frost, Sr., home
James Thompson, home
Susie Howdeshell, home
Jane Watson, home
Jeffrey Turner, Abundant Life
Susan DeFoy, MRC Cornerstone, Rm. 505A



Darel Bair

*Beth Brine
Paul & Mary Matthews
Maryjane Orr*



**Serving this Sunday
September 11, 2022**

Greeters: George & Julia Carpenter
Worship Leader: Lee Nailling
Hospital Elder: Robert Kern
Flower Elder: Alice Kern
Deacons:

September 4, 2022

Attendance: 38
Offering: \$ 3,167.68
Weekly Needs: \$ 4,068.61
Difference: \$ - 900.93

YTD Collected: \$122,119.52
YTD Needed: \$146,470.46
Difference: \$-24,350.94

LECTIONARY FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28
Psalm 14
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

Sermon This Sunday:

"The Absence of Joy"

Scripture:

Luke 15:1-10