**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**16th Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 8, 2024**

**9:30 a.m.**

Find the link for the service on one of these sites:

1) on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>   
2) our YouTube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/live>

3) our web site: <https://www.southminsterpc.org/>

If the video feed is interrupted during the service, we will continue to record and then post the full video on Facebook and our web site as soon as possible.

Gathering Music

Our Photo Story today is “Ticket to Adventure VBS 2024.”

Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

Lighting the Candles (Acts 2:2)‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬

**They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship,   
to the breaking of bread and the prayers.**

Prelude

[Please remain seated as we begin worship.]

Hymn: *10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)*  p. 2, gold worship supplement

Call to Worship

Leader: Teach us, Lord, on the mystery of the withered leaf and ripened fruit.

**People: Teach our lips a blessing and a hymn of praise,   
 that we may praise you and renew our souls.**

**All:** **Let us worship the Lord our God.**

Hymn: *Christ Our Hope in Life and Death*  p. 7, gold worship supplement

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Lord God, there are times when we experience the harshness of life, cut off from joy. Even so, help us to remember that our stories are not done, and you are not done working in the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is both Savior and Lord. Amen.**

(Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

The Good News of Jesus Christ  (Psalm 103)

Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious;  
     slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**People: For as the heavens are high above the earth,** **so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

Leader: As far as the east is from the west,  
     so far he removes our transgressions from us.

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**All: Alleluia!**

Response 582: *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,**

**And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,**

**And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

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The Passing of the Peace

Word with Children Blair Baldwin  
 Children worshiping in the sanctuary, please come forward.

As the children leave:

*He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands*

**He’s got the whole world in his hands,**

**He’s got the whole wide world in his hands,**

**He's got the whole world in his hands,**

**He's got the whole world in his hands.**

Public domain

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons:  Psalm 145:1-5, 8-9, 14-18  Pew Bible, p. 581 (O.T.)

Acts 16:25-32 Pew Bible p. 136 (N.T.)

Sermon: “Praise God in the Storm”

Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison) Philippians 4:4-7

**Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**

Hymn 840: *When Peace Like a River (It Is Well with My Soul)*

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

**People**: **hear our prayers.**

**The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power   
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

[The offering plate is at the back of the sanctuary. Please leave your gift or pledge  
in the plate on your way into or out of worship.]

Offertory Anthem

\**Doxology* Hymnal #606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Him all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Hymn 633: *Praise Ye, the Lord (Psalm 150)*

Charge and Benediction

Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,  
 **People: For we are blessed to be a blessing! Alleluia!**

Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgist: Pete Petersen  
Greeter/Fellowship: Beth Bonde  
Musician: Tom Anderson  
Worship Associate: David Kozich  
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are from Lanny Russell celebrating the birthdays of his granddaughters Grace, 17, and Belle, 16.

If you are online, we’re glad to have you! Using the comments section on Facebook, you can say hello, ask for words of peace, or request prayers.  
If you are present for worship, please wear a name tag; they are on the Mission shelf in the Narthex and on the shelf across from the church offices. Following the service, you are invited by the deacons to gather for a time of **fellowship** in the narthex.

**Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study,** **11:15 a.m.:** If you’re at church and wish to join us, find Blair at his computer in the parlor/library. If you’re following us online, join the class by using this link: <https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>.  
You are invited to join us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>), where we have a live sharing of “**Heart to Heart**” with Pastor Wendy Boden at 4:20 p.m. most weeks Tuesday through Friday.

We continue to be live on **Sunday morning for worship** at 9:30 a.m. (slideshow beginning at 9:15) on YouTube at  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/live>

or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>

If you are watching from home on Facebook, please check in and say hello so we can see that you have joined us. This is one way to make worship less “remote” and strengthen community at Southminster.

*The live video will appear about 15 minutes before the scheduled start time.*

*If for any reason the feed falters, rest assured that a recording will be posted to Facebook and You Tube as soon as possible.*

You can also find links to recordings of the weekday sessions, special services, and Sunday worship posted on our web site: <https://www.southminsterpc.org/> or by going to our YouTube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/videos>

**Photo Stories/PowerPoints help us feel connected!**Photo Stories/PowerPoints help us prepare for worship, connect with one another, and make sure that our at-home people get both sound and sight. Here is a coming opportunity for you to share your photos:  
 **October 6:** “**Communion Tables**” – photos of communion tables from the places of   
 worship you visit while away on vacation or even ask a relative to send you a picture.  
 Please send photos by Thursday, October 3.  
  
**Send photos to our dedicated email address, used just for photos:**[PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org](mailto:PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org)**.** (If you only have hard copies of your photos, please leave them in the photo box on Pastor Wendy’s desk, labeled with your name and the date they are to be used.   
  
  
**Today – Deacons’ Fall Bake Sale**!  
Check out home baked goodies, cookies, and other treats at the **Deacons’ Fall Bake Sale** during Fellowship time following worship. There will be a free will offering to support the Deacon Care Fund. Join us for the fun and take home some goodies or enjoy them during the Fellowship time.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**    
**Adult Education**:  Our study of Matthew’s Gospel continues today at 11:15 in the Parlor/Library. Join us as we learn about what it means to be a disciple and part of the church community—in good times and in bad.  
  
**Men of Southminster**:  Some of you are helping cook for the Stewardship Potluck on September 22. That will be our group time for September. Please respond to the email from Blair N about dates for the balance of the year.    
  
**Youth**: Put September 22 on your calendar for a special event with one of our Cuban visitors: Odilaisy. She does the youth work at our sister church and will be with us from 4:00-5:00 to visit and answer any questions you can think of about what it means to be a kid in Cuba and part of a Presbyterian church there. (We will have Pizza & Games – or Pizza-less Games – if our Cuban friends don’t come.) At 5:00 p.m., the annual Stewardship Potluck begins, so bring your appetite, and the rest of your family! Also, please respond to Blair N’s email about dates for Oct. through Dec.  
  
  
**From the Mission Ministry: The Cuba Sister Church Ministry**  
There is more to having a sister church than paying a visit, though the visits are important. In September the Chicago Presbytery is hosting the Cuba Partnership Network (CPN) for their annual meeting in Darien, IL. The CPN is a network of Presbyterian churches in the U.S. that have sister churches in Cuba. ***We are looking for people to help with this event.*** Pastor Wendy will be making gift bags and would love your help assembling them. The event will also need folks to make Costco runs and airport runs. There will be people attending from all over the United States and Cuba.  
  
**We need people to pray that the U.S. visas for Cubans attending this important meeting come through in time**! Take a moment right now and offer a prayer.  
  
Southminster is looking for someone to help make the travel arrangements for our trips. Would you enjoy supporting this special relationship by working on the arrangements? You will be guided and taught and not just simply tossed into the deep end.  
  
We are also collecting school supplies for our Cuba sister church. Christian Ed./VBS started the drive – here is their list of suggested items:

**Collection for Cuba:**

Crayons  
Colored pencils  
Markers   
Pencils  
Glue sticks  
Glue in plastic bottles  
Erasers  
Tape  
Stickers  
AA Batteries (for battery operated pencil sharpener)

**Please leave donations in the suitcase in the Narthex.**

**From the Worship Ministry**

**All Saints Sunday: *Remembering those we have lost this past year***

All Saints Sunday ‒ November 3 this year‒ as a way to acknowledge our grief by giving it to God as we renew our hope in God through Jesus Christ. Death does not have the last word! On this Sunday we draw close to God and to one another. We remember the hope that we are called to as Christ’s people. We will conclude our worship that day by gathering in our Memorial Garden and blessing the new memorial bricks that have been placed there during the past year.

If you would you like to add the name of a loved one (they don't need to be a member of the Southminster faith community), please send a picture and their name to [PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org](mailto:PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org) **by October 25**. If you would like their name to be printed in the Bearing Fruit and mentioned in prayers, please send their name and date to   
[admin@Southminsterpc.org](file:///C:\Users\Owner\Desktop\2020%20Pandemic%2009-01-23%20update\Dialog\September%202023\admin@Southminsterpc.org%20) **by October 25**, as well.

**Memorial Bricks**: If you would like to purchase a memorial brick, to remember someone or to honor someone, we must have your request no later than September 20. The cost remains $125 per brick. Pick up an order form on the desk in the church office or contact the office by phone (630-469-9149) or email ([admin@southminsterpc.org](mailto:admin@southminsterpc.org)). We need time to have the bricks engraved and installed before dedicating them on All Saints Sunday, November 3.

**Presbyterian Readers** will meet Wednesday, September 18, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Our September book is *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* byJames McBride, the winner of the 2024 Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction.

Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting through this link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86861724721?pwd=TE0yYXZGZUtUNkdvYWh4UEhaTFc0dz09> Meeting ID: 868 6172 4721 Passcode: 600865

**For more information about the Readers**, contact Rita Zapel at [rboserup@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rboserup@sbcglobal.net)**.**

**Presbyterian Women** will kick off its new season with a breakfast tea on Friday, September 20, starting promptly at 9:30 a.m. in the McHenry Parlor/Library. The meeting focuses on reconnecting with each other through a social gathering. There will be a short business meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m. All women of the church are invited.

**Join us for the Stewardship Potluck on September 22!**

You are all invited to the **Stewardship Ministry’s Annual Potluck Supper** on Sunday, September 22, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, featuring Hamburgers and Hot Dogs grilled by the “Grill Masters” from the Men’s group. You may bring other “American” style picnic foods to share if you like, or just come for the great food and great company. There will be plenty of both! Watch for sign-up sheets in the narthex for Set-up, Grilling and Clean-up, and all are welcome to participate. Signing up is not required, but it will help our planning if you do.

**Jubilee Bucks:**  
Thanks to all who order Jubilee Bucks gift cards! Your purchases to date have earned $1,409.98 of “free” money   
for Southminster. Your next chance to order will be Sunday, October 6, but you can always get your order in early with an email to [bobbifrey@aol.com](mailto:bobbifrey@aol.com).

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)**:   
Our weekly donations are greatly appreciated! Every bit helps! Each client receives between 70-100 pounds of food per visit! PRC receives, rescues, sorts and distributes about 40,000 pounds of food per week. Thanks to all! If you’d like suggestions for the most needed items for the PRC food pantry, there are lists of suggested donations in one of the literature stands on the shelf in the main hallway that is across from the church offices.

**Community invitations!**The **Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has invited our church members to a neighborhood barbeque** today, September 8, at 5:00 p.m. at their mosque at 2S510 IL-53 in Glen Ellyn. Their announcement of this event is on a bulletin board in the Narthex. They ask that those coming RSVP by calling or texting (630) 974- 8425 or by sending an email to: [zaim.chicago@ansarusa.org](mailto:zaim.chicago@ansarusa.org) .  
  
Save the date – Wednesday, September 25, at 7:00 a.m. – for the annual **Glen Ellyn Interfaith Prayer Breakfast** at the Abbington. The theme is “Experiencing Wholeness through Diversity,” and the guest speaker will be Paul Chandler, “an author, art curator, non-profit executive, interfaith peacemaker, and an authority on the Middle East and Africa. He grew up in Senegal, West Africa, and has lived and worked extensively around the world in senior leadership roles within faith-based publishing, the arts, relief and development…” He also has roots in the Glen Ellyn community.  
  
Again this year Pastor Wendy Boden is reserving two tables for the friends and members of Southminster. You are invited to be her guest, or you may donate $30.00. If you are interested in joining the Southminster group at the event, please send an email to our administrator, Barb, at [admin@southminsterpc.org](mailto:admin@southminsterpc.org) or call 630-469-9149.

**Care Notes:** “In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” -Philippians 4:6   
Even though we aren’t all together for worship, we are still collecting prayer requests! Please email or leave a message on our answering machine at 630-469-9149 if you won’t be present to fill out a prayer request slip.

**Friends,****You are all invited to offer prayer for people whether they are members or not. It would be a joy and very helpful to know how people are doing. If you have submitted a person to be prayed for, please send an update to the office once in a while. Thank you! Pastor Wendy**

***New requests and updates are italicized in our prayer list.***

**Joys and Concerns** ***The flowers today*** *are from Lanny Russell celebrating the birthdays of his granddaughters Grace, 17, and Belle, 16***We give thanks to God for joys.**  *- The joy of having Roland Lankah and family visit from Boston on Sunday*    **We pray for the whole world and our nation:**   
 *- Prayers for the family and friends of the 2 students and 2 teachers shot and killed at Apalachee High School in Georgia: Mason Schermerhorn, Christian Angulo, Christina Irimie, and Richard Aspinwall. Intervention for Colt Gray.*  
  - Peace for Haiti and Sudan; Hamas, Israel, the people of Palestine, and the tangle of interests in the Middle East; Ukraine and Russia  
  - Pray for the American people to come together as we vote.  
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. *In one day (last Sunday, September 1) there were 109 shooting incidents in 38 states and the District of Columbia, leaving 35 people dead and 117 people injured.)* To see current statistics for shootings in our country go to <https://www.gunviolencearchive.org>.  
  - We pray for our nation as we continue to wrestle with race relations.  
  - We continue to pray for peace in the world  
 - For the Cuba Partnership Network as they seek visas for Cuban pastors and spouses for their meeting in September  
**Blessed are those who mourn**:   
 *- The family and friends of Fire Chief (Ret.) Dan Hermes, who died Thursday, August 29, after 13 years of illness  
 - Victor King and family on the death of his sister, Elrene King, in South Africa  
 - Barb Doppelt’s extended family on the death of her dear Aunt Ruth  
 - The death of Beverly Webb, the sister of the late Bill Curry and Gretchen Fleming’s sister-in-law. Comfort in sorrow her husband, Bob, and daughter, Allison.  
 - Pastor Dave Price (Glen Ellyn 1st United Methodist Church), his wife, Laura, and their family on the death of Laura’s mother* - The family and friends of Joe Furwo  
 - Prayers for the family of Caroline Linde, and especially for Ralph, after her passing on July 17. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Caroline will be held at Southminster this Saturday, September 14; visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m. with the service following at 11:00. You can find her obituary here: <https://www.hultgrenfh.com/obituary/carolinelinde>.  
 - Prayers for Karen Fitzgerald and family on the death of her father, John Launer, on July 29.  
  - For the families and friends of Dan, Mike, and those we name in our hearts and hold dear.  
**We lift up those who are affected by cancer, as well as their support systems**:  
Please help us pray for your family and friends by updating your loved ones’ information with the church office. We support them and you in their journey.     
 - Ron Birchall asks prayers for Mark, diagnosed with an aggressive form of leukemia  
 - Mary Tennyson, diagnosed with cancer  
 - Pam Ellinghausen Greenholt, Hal’s niece, was doing better after a brain tumor diagnosis, but now the tumor has returned and spread to her liver. She has been told there is nothing more that can be done – “It is in God’s hands, and she is good with that.”  
 - We continue to pray for: Kim, Frank B., Katie B., Tom G., Frank L., Jean K., Jan M., Nikki M., Rebecca M., Tim O., Betsey P., Laura P., Cis R., Gerry S., Marta S., Meagan S., Shelayne, and others we name in our hearts.   
**We pray for all who are recovering or dealing with mental or physical health or other challenges**:  
 *- Scott Zapel, that his hip replacement surgery on Friday was successful; may he have a good recovery.  
 - Ignacio (in Cuba), who is very ill and alone in the hospital*  
 *- Rick Crilly, upcoming surgeries  
 - Heather Kralicek recovering from foot surgery* - Joe McHaley was recently hospitalized with cardiac issues   
 - Kathy, a friend going through medical procedures   
 - Deb Bohi’s cousin, Barb, who has some serious health issues  
 - Prayers for Paul Anderson following ankle surgery   
 - Those trying to conceive and struggling with infertility  
 - Rita Zapel asks prayers for Felice Tristano, age 96, who is healing slowly with a broken pelvis after a fall. He is the father-in-law of Rita’s brother.  
  - Phyllis Lay, hospitalized in Florida  
  - Heidi Shierry, continuing health issues  
  - Brandon, a young man with liver damage  
  - Prayers for all who are looking for meaningful employment  
  - Mya, an 11-year-old who is suffering from an auto immune disease  
  - All those who have medical concerns and upcoming medical procedures  
  - Isabella, awaiting a kidney donor  
  - Oaklen, a grandchild of a friend of Tricia Smith, who has birth defects  
  - Sandy Phee asks prayers for Linda Talaga, who is now blind in both eyes.  
  - Prayers for healing, strength, and peace for Dan, a neighbor of Ann Anderson   
  - All those who are experiencing chronic pain.  
  - For those who are depressed  
  - Jim Smith, at Brookdale, and all who are in care centers  
  - Difficult marriages  
  - We continue prayers for those in hospice care: Gail Johnston at Du Page Convalescent Center (If you send a card to Gail, please mail it to Andrea Schmidt, whose address is in the directory.); former President Jimmy Carter; Barb Doppelt’s friend Bill   
**We pray for the Jeremiah 29 discernment task force** and all of us as we seek God’s will for Southminster in the 21st century. May we all be attentive to the Holy Spirit’s leading. **Prayers for our worshiping community** as we discern together God’s call on SPC for the 21st century.

**Caring for you!**Our **Congregational Care Committee** is ready to assist in time of need. If you need assistance from the Congregational Care Ministry or Helping Hands in September, call Deacon Barb Kocinski (630-710-4703). You may call Pastor Wendy Boden on her cell or home phone (if she has shared the numbers with you) or leave a message for her at the church office: 630-469-9149. Email Wendy at [wendy@southminsterpc.org](mailto:wendy@southminsterpc.org). (Please note that she can only read email when she is in the office.) You may also call your deacon if you need help from the church.  
  
**Regular Office Schedule: The church office is closed on Mondays and Wednesdays.**Barb’s regular schedule is to be in the office Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from approximately 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. while her son attends his day program on those days. Mondays and Wednesdays she works from home.  
  
  
Grace and peace to you! Remember that we love God, neighbor, and one another. Our address is 680 South Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 if you would like to set up an online account with your bank or mail in your pledge. Online giving through Vanco is also now an option –for details contact Ron Birchall.   
  
  
**Dates to remember this week:**  **Sunday, September 8** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. - in person and also live on Facebook **Fellowship and Deacons’ Bake Sale** in the Narthex following worship  
 **Staff meeting** at 11:00 in the pastor’s office   
 **Confirmation** at 11:15 a.m. in the pastor’s office  
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library **Monday, Sept. 9 – Pastor’s Sabbath  
Tuesday-Friday** – **Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m. **Tuesday, Sept. 10   
 Knitting Circle** at 10:00 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library  
 **Deacons** at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall   
**Wednesday, Sept. 11  
 eNotes go out  
 Property** at 7:00 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library **Thursday, Sept. 12  
 Session docket deadline** at noon **Friday, Sept. 13** A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
**Saturday, September 14  
 Visitation with the Linde family** from 10:00 a.m. until the service **Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Caroline Linde** at 11:00 a.m.   
 in the sanctuary. Reception afterward in the Narthex and Parlor. **Next Sunday, September 22**  
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. - in person and also live on Facebook **Fellowship** in the Narthex following worship  
 **Staff meeting** at 11:00 in the pastor’s office   
 **Confirmation** at 11:15 a.m. in the pastor’s office  
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library  
 **Youth Group** meets from 4:00 p.m. until the potluck  
 **Stewardship Potluck** at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

**Covid – where are we now?**Covid spiked during the summer, so we have continued having a “comfort zone” toward the back of the sanctuary. You may, of course, continue to wear a mask, if you so choose.

**Bearing Fruit – September 8, 2024**

**Our Deacons**

Our Deacons bear the fruit of God’s love behind the scenes. They are the people who greet you at the door each Sunday and who provide the refreshments for Fellowship, a very important part of our family life together after our worship service; in fact, it is an extension of worship. We continue to worship God as we come together each week as a family of faith, sharing our love and concerns, our joys and our sorrows. Laughter and love are also present during fellowship. The coffee and treats could easily be called a mini *agape* feast. *Agape* is the Greek word in the Bible for “love” between Christians.   
  
They make the coffee. They bring the treats. They provide the set up. They help make Southminster a loving, caring, community of Christian hope.  
  
Our Deacons are the ones who step up in times of mourning. Next Saturday we will be saying good bye to our dear sister in Christ, Caroline Linde. The Deacons will be setting up on Friday, September 13, and on Saturday they will be greeting, serving punch, coffee and tea, cake, and other types of food. Afterward, of course, there will be the cleanup.  
  
Deacon funds were used to purchase a Caring Bridge site for one of our members, for Advent calendars to hand out to members, and to support the youth with Sleep Out Saturday in 2023.  
  
Deacons keep in touch with and support members through phone calls, personal visits, and holiday cards. They organize the cards we are invited to sign after worship in the Narthex; notes of encouragement, congratulations, sympathy, get well, thank you, and thinking of you. The cards are sent to church members, friends, and staff. Deacons also remember our students away at college with gift cards at exam time and graduation cards. Last year there were over 150 cards sent.  
  
Today our Deacons are offering a Bake Sale after worship to support their work. The Deacon expense budget is small, just $200.00 annually, which comes to $3.84 weekly. It is what pays for our fellowship each week. (Well, mostly… some of our deacons simply contribute the cost to the church.) But the Deacon Care Fund is supported by free will offerings like today’s Bake Sale. Our purchases of bake sale items will help the Deacons express our love as a family of faith in physical and tangible ways. We bear the fruit of God’s love by supporting the Deacons’ Bake Sale, and we will get something yummy to eat, too.