

**WELCOME** to all who enter this place. Drink deeply of the living waters of God's grace as we worship together.

**Visitors:** Consider yourself at home while you are here! Please pick up a Visitor's Information Packet while enjoying refreshments at our Visitor's Table in Fellowship Hall.

**Adult Sunday School:** Adult Sunday School Class meets in Classroom 5 at 8:30 a.m. before worship. Each Sunday's discussion topic will be the day's sermon scriptures. Coffee and cookies will be provided.

**Children:** Children up through 2nd grade are invited to "The Kids Room," Room #4, during the worship service. Children 3rd grade and up remain in the worship service. Children who remain in the service can obtain an activity bag in the sanctuary.

**Join the Inquisitors** as we watch and discuss "The Spiritual Brain: Science and Religious Experience," one of the Great Courses. Here, award-winning scholar and practicing neuroscientist Dr. Andrew Newberg, Director of Research at the Myrna Brind Center of Integrative Medicine at Thomas, Jefferson University Hospital, presents lectures that explore the new and exciting field of neurotheology, a discipline aimed at understanding the connections between our brains and different kinds of religious phenomena. Join us for this fascinating course which begins Friday, September 20, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. in Classroom 1. It will be an exciting experience!

**Women's Ministries:** Remember to make your reservation for the first Gathering of the year on Sept 24. This one will be at the Recreation Center on the La Posada Campus. Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Program: First lesson of the new 2019-2020 Bible Study: Words of Love: I Am Your God, led by Pastor Diane Christopher. Reservations can be made today after the worship service. Reservations will not be available on September 22.

**Taizé is Back!** Wednesday, September 11 at 5:00 p.m. in the Spiritual Life Center. We invite you to this beautiful worship service which includes simple songs, scripture and silence in an atmosphere of candlelight.

**Next Visit to Casa Vida Nueva para Niños:** Sign up for the Sep 14 trip down to Nogales, MX. and witness how our children are progressing with our support. To sign up, see Reed Olson in Fellowship Hall today after worship. To secure your seats faster, contact him directly at [olsonr1@cox.net](mailto:olsonr1@cox.net) or call him at #269-7829.

**SHiM Event at VPC:** Come and join us on Monday, September 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We are having lots of speakers, tables of information, exercise demonstrations and lunch.

**Blood Pressure Screening** is next Sunday in the Sweet Family Room after the worship service.

**Thank you to our volunteers!**

**Coffee Fellowship**  
April & George Boysen  
**Information Center**  
Kay & Mike Brouwer  
**Medical Team**  
Doug Clark

**Visitors Table**  
Cheryl & Dave Stepp  
**Welcome Centers**  
Carol Peeler, Roy Romstad

**Flowers given by:** Mark & Sue Horton  
In celebration of our 50th Wedding Anniversary

**Hunger Walk:** We are forming a VPC team for the Hunger Walk on September 14 at 8 a.m. If you can't walk, please find someone on our team and sponsor them. Brochures will be in the office. Betty Kiesle-Yoder will be your Captain.

**Patio Sale Sorting for 2019 in Fellowship Hall**

Thursday, September 12 at 8:00 a.m.  
Thursday, October 10 at 8:00 a.m.  
Thursday, November 7 at 8:00 a.m.  
Thursday, December 19 at 8:00 a.m.

Week #35 (through 9/1/19)			
Church Weekly Operations Finances		Church Weekly Attendance	
Weekly Giving Income	\$16,167	2019 Attendance	265
Δ Weekly Giving Budget	\$8,490	2018 Attendance	219
*YTD Giving Income	\$493,448	*YTD 2019 Attendance	11,381
Δ*YTD Giving Budget	\$453,546	*YTD 2018 Attendance	11,699
(*) YTD: Year-to-Date			
Δ Based on Aug 2019 Budget Adjustment		2019 Per Capita is \$40.22 per member	



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**We are a Stephen Ministry Church**



**REV. DIANE CHRISTOPHER, *Pastor of Discipleship***  
**CHRISTINE ERICKSON, RN, *Parish Nurse***  
**JAMIE REED, *Director of Music***  
**WES MOULTON, *Organist/Accompanist***  
**REV. JOE HAWKINS, *Pastor Emeritus***



To make Christ known through reconciliation while communicating respect and love to all people.

♦ All those who are able, please stand September 8, 2019

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**  
God of the prophets, you have promised to be with us whenever two or three are gathered together in your name. You have shown yourself faithful to us, and you have been our friend and loving critic. Help us learn to be faithful in return. Turn our hearts and minds to you, so that this community of faith may truly be the body of Christ, in whose name we pray.

**9:20 A.M. WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH** Pastor Diane  
*Please print your name in the Friendship Register provided in your pew.*

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**  
**POURING OF THE WATER**  
*Jesus is the Living Water. Praise be to God.*

**PRELUDE** *Priere on "Merrial"* T. Albrecht

**INTROIT** *The First Song of Isaiah*  
**Surely, it is God who saves me;**  
**I will trust in him and not be afraid.**  
**For the Lord is my stronghold**  
**and my sure defense,**  
**and he will be my Savior.**

♦ **CALL TO WORSHIP** Elder Rudy Sweisfurth

**Leader:** Come into this sacred space to worship God.  
**People:** **God of mystery, in you we trust; never let us be ashamed.**

**Leader:** Come into this sacred space to worship God.  
**People:** **Be to us a rock for dwelling in, a secure place for retreating to, a rock for our restoration.**

**Leader:** Come into this sacred space to worship God.  
**People:** **For you are our hope, our trust since our early years. In you is our wonder again and again.**

◆HYMN

*We Sing to You, O God*

2001

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful and forgiving Savior, a review of our lives reveals a mixed bag. At times we've displayed courage, at other times fear. We are compassionate one minute and holding a grudge the next. Humility is nudged aside by pride. Contentment loses ground to envy. Worry steals the peace that passes understanding. Hopefulness dissolves into self-pity. We need your mercy. We want to be made whole and new. We ask for your forgiveness and for you to do in us and for us what we cannot. (Silent Confessions)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE OF ASSURANCE *More Love to Thee, O Christ*

More love to Thee, O Christ, More love to Thee!  
Hear Thou the prayer I make On bended knee.  
This is my earnest plea: More love, O Christ, to Thee,  
More love to Thee, More love to Thee!

ANTHEM  
Schrader

*Surely The Presence*

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,  
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings, I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.  
Christ beside me, Christ before me,  
Christ behind me king of my heart;  
Christ within me, Christ below me,  
Christ above me never to part.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

*Please join the Choir in singing the Great Amen.*



SCRIPTURE READINGS 2 Kings 2:9-13, 19-25; Luke 4:22-29  
*This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God*

SERMON *Double the Challenge, Double the Fun!* Rev. Brad Munroe

◆HYMN *Gather Us In* (vs. 1-3) 2236

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

*\*If you haven't already done so, please print your name in the Fellowship Register.*

OFFERTORY *Come Home* arr: C. Callahan  
Organ Duet: Wes Moulton; Jan Brachel, Organists

◆DOXOLOGY Old One Hundredth 592  
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.

◆PRAYER OF DEDICATION

◆HYMN *Come Sing, O Church, In Joy* 430

◆BENEDICTION

◆CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God our Creator, children all are we.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.  
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.  
With ev'ry breath I take, let this be my solemn vow,  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

◆POSTLUDE *Carillon* T. Dubois

**OUR WORSHIP NOW ENTERS THE WORLD!**

Rev. Brad Munroe is our guest speaker today. Brad is our Presbytery's Executive Pastor, and Pastor to our Pastors. Extend a welcome of hospitality to Brad!

*Worship Aids/Sermon Notes*

Sermon Title: *Double the Challenge, Double the Fun!*

Scriptures:

**2 Kings 2:9-13, 19-25**

<sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?" "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied. <sup>10</sup>"You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not." <sup>11</sup>As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. <sup>12</sup>Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two. <sup>13</sup>Elisha then picked up Elijah's cloak that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan.

<sup>19</sup>The people of the city said to Elisha, "Look, our lord, this town is well situated, as you can see, but the water is bad and the land is unproductive." <sup>20</sup>"Bring me a new bowl," he said, "and put salt in it." So they brought it to him. <sup>21</sup>Then he went out to the spring and threw the salt into it, saying, "This is what the LORD says: 'I have healed this water. Never again will it cause death or make the land unproductive.'" <sup>22</sup>And the water has remained pure to this day, according to the word Elisha had spoken.<sup>23</sup>From there Elisha went up to Bethel. As he was walking along the road, some boys came out of the town and jeered at him. "Get out of here, baldy!" they said. "Get out of here, baldy!" <sup>24</sup>He turned around, looked at them and called down a curse on them in the name of the LORD. Then two bears came out of the woods and mauled forty-two of the boys. <sup>25</sup>And he went on to Mount Carmel and from there returned to Samaria.

**Luke 4:22-29**

<sup>22</sup>All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked. <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'" <sup>24</sup>"Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. <sup>25</sup>I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. <sup>26</sup>Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. <sup>27</sup>And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian."<sup>28</sup>All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this.<sup>29</sup>They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff.