Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

September begins a fall for celebration as summer draws to a close. On each Sunday in September we have a special celebration planned and as you will see, we’ll be giving thanks and celebrating all fall long.

We begin on September 8th with grandparents day. As we did last year, we want an opportunity to honor grandparents and the special relationships between grandparents and their grandchildren. So, we hope families will come together at the 10:30 service that day to express their gratitude for their family heritage. On the evening of September 8th, the youth group resumes with several of our core members beginning their senior year.

On September 15th we will be having a Parish Service and Picnic at Roundtop in Athens. We will have our regular 8am service in the church and the 10:30am service will be outside at a reserved pavilion at Roundtop followed by a covered dish Parish picnic. The pavilion will be close enough so that we can easily assist people with mobility issues to a seat. Bring your place settings and favorite picnic dish to pass and join us as we celebrate the beauty of God’s creation together.

On September 22nd, we will be welcoming our kids back to Sunday School. Bonnie and her Sunday School team have some great surprises in store for our younger members.

On September 29th, we will have a special Sunday celebration for our Choir. The choir joyfully puts in a great deal of time and effort to prepare music to enhance our Sunday worship. So, I’ve asked Marcella to let them pick the some hymns they love for that Sunday and we can gather to say thank you for all their dedication and hard work. On that Sunday we will also be commissioning our Eucharistic Ministers, who serve us so faithfully each Sunday.

In this newsletter, we also have an article for the United Thank Offering, led by Vicky Stewart. October will be the month for filling our UTO boxes with our ingathering taking place on All Saints, November 3rd. October will also be the month we will be constructing a *sukkot* for our stewardship program. The *sukkot* is a symbol of harvest, which illustrates the bounty that God has provided, of which God has made us stewards.

So, please plan to join us in September and throughout the fall as we celebrate the wondrous gifts that God has bestowed upon us, beginning with the gift of family, the beauty of creation, our children and our opportunity to educate them in the faith, and beautiful music and faithful service. **Thanks be to God for all that God has given!**

In Christ,

Fr. Glenn+