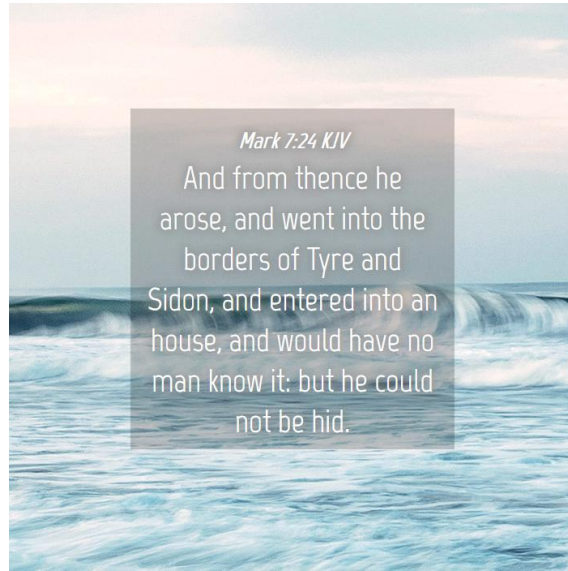


THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
September 8, 2024  
9:30 A.M.



***We Gather in Jesus' Name***

***Prelude*** (a time for silent meditation)

***Announcements***

***Prelude*** (a time for silent meditation)

***Announcements***

***Confessions and Forgiveness***

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

**Gathering Song: "Open Our Eyes Lord"**

Open our eyes Lord  
We want to see Jesus  
To reach out and touch Him  
And say that we love Him

Open our ears Lord  
And help us to listen  
Open our eyes Lord  
We want to see Jesus

### **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

*Let us Pray . . .* Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Reading of God's Word**

#### **First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7a</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

*Word of God, Word of Life*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 146**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

<sup>2</sup>**I will praise the LORD as long as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

<sup>3</sup>Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

<sup>4</sup>**When they breathe their last, they return to earth,  
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

<sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup>**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
who keeps promises forever;**

<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.  
The LORD sets the captive free.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
the LORD loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD shall reign forever,**

**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

### **Second Reading: James 2:1-17**

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ?

<sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, “Have a seat here, please,” while to the one who is poor you say, “Stand there,” or, “Sit at my feet,” <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among

yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. <sup>11</sup>For the one who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

*Word of God, Word of Life*

**Thanks be to God.**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 7<sup>th</sup> Chapter

**C: Glory to You, O Lord**

**Gospel: Mark 7:24-37**

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Sermon**

**Sermon**

**Song of Praise: “In Christ Alone”**

**1:** In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

**2:** In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

**3:** There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

**4:** No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

### ***Apostle's Creed***

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the  
dead.**

**I believe In the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

### ***Prayers of Intercession***

*(Each petition ends with... Hear us, O God. The congregation responds: **Your mercy is great.**)*

### ***Sharing of the Peace***

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you**

***The Offering*** Please leave your offering on our website: [https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco\\_ver3.vps?appver3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCImH2sG-jdxWYJMFGW\\_lQfxkD4hBw8WoQ6UZLveQvLkSxosar20939JWiAad8707zqy-JU\\_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKkoPpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y\\_VCHQ6\\_VCoE=&ver=3](https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCImH2sG-jdxWYJMFGW_lQfxkD4hBw8WoQ6UZLveQvLkSxosar20939JWiAad8707zqy-JU_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKkoPpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y_VCHQ6_VCoE=&ver=3)

### ***Offertory Prayer***

Let us pray...

**Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### ***Sacrament***

### ***The Great Thanksgiving***

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### ***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 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.**

### ***Distribution***

The body of Christ, given to you

The blood of Christ, shed for you

### ***Prayer After Communion***

Let us pray... Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### ***Sending/Blessing***

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.**

***Sending Hymn: "Forever"***

- 1: Give thanks to the Lord  
Our God and King  
His love endures forever  
For He is good  
He is above all things  
His love endures forever  
Sing praise sing praise
- 2: With a mighty hand  
And an outstretched arm  
His love endures forever  
For the life that's been reborn  
His love endures forever  
Sing praise sing praise sing praise sing praise

*Chorus* Forever God is faithful  
Forever God is strong  
Forever God is with us  
Forever forever

- 3: From the rising to the setting sun  
His love endures forever  
And by the grace of God  
We will carry on  
His love endures forever  
Sing praise sing praise  
sing praise sing praise *Chorus*


***Dismissal***

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

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<b>OUR MISSION - FAITHFUL IN THE WORD</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ To <b>gather</b> as God's people and nurture one another</li> <li>+ To <b>know</b> the Word of God</li> <li>+ To <b>grow</b> in faith, love, and service</li> <li>+ To <b>go</b> into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ</li> </ul>	

**SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Pastor:  
Music Director  
Worship Assistant  
Fellowship Time

The Rev. Matthew E Ollikainen  
Michael Dettra  
Rose Herbert  
George Henry

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The Altar Flowers are both dedicated by the Kelly and Saegert families in loving memory of Elaine Lennon.

**MISSION SUPPORT**

Mission Support is dedicated to the Glory of God.

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

Sunday, September 1 22 + 2 = 24

**SEE THE CHURCH WEBSITE PROGRESS - FEEDBACK NEEDED!**

This morning we will show the progress made on the website before each Worship Service. Please let us know what you think and provide feedback to either Katie Dettra (kathryndettra@comcast.net), Mike Sitler (sitler@temple.edu) or Pastor Matt (pastormattollikainen@gmail.com) by September 15th.

**CONTACTING PASTOR MATT**

If you need to speak with Pastor Matt when he is not in the office, particularly in the case of a pastoral emergency, please feel free to call his cell at 215-859-3778 or email him at [pastor@adventrichboro.org](mailto:pastor@adventrichboro.org). If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

**GOD SIGHTINGS**

Have you seen God at work in your life, or in nature, a neighbor, etc.? Please add to our God Sightings chain by writing down the ways that you see God in your life. Use the strips of paper found in the narthex. Take them home to write your sightings down daily, or do it right at church. They will be stapled onto the chain (or you can staple them yourself). We will continue to add to it until Reformation Sunday, October 27. Let's see how many times we can circle the sanctuary!



**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Financial Report For July 2024		
	Rec'vd for July 2024	Budget for July 2024
General Fund	\$13,816.93	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,426	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$75	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$240	
Web Upgrade	\$2,180	
Total	\$17,737.93	\$19,455.00
	Recv'd YTD 1/1-7/31/24	Budget YTD 1/1-7/31/24
General Fund	\$79,642.50	\$122,374.00
Mortgage	\$11,969.00	\$13,286.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$355.00	\$525.00
Other Benevolence	\$3,775.00	
Web Upgrade	\$5,180.00	
Total	\$100,921.50	\$136,185.00



**LADIES LUNCH – SEPTEMBER 10 and OCTOBER 8**

Here's an invitation to the women of Advent to meet & have lunch with one other, planned for the second **Tuesday** in both September and October. We'll gather in the all-purpose room at Advent at **noon** for a relaxing hour or so. **Bring your own lunch** and look forward to dining with a cheerful group of friends! Please note: If either date needs to be changed, updates will be announced in the worship bulletin.

**Our Flea Market is just days away...**

**If you are still looking to “declutter/downsize items in your living space”, please consider joining us and participating in this event.**

On **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2024**, Advent Lutheran Church is holding a **FLEA MARKET** in the church parking lot from 9 am to 1 pm. This is a rain or shine event (held indoors in the event of rain) for church members, friends, neighbors and members of the community to sell/buy items, or just browse. Water and soft pretzels will be available at the flea market at a cost of \$1.00 each.

Flea Market Registration Forms (with detailed information) can be found on the round table in the church Narthex or on the church's website at [adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.org](mailto:adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.org). A \$10.00 non-refundable registration fee must accompany your registration. Registrations deadline is today (participants must supply their own table to display their sale items).

We look forward to seeing you at the Flea Market and helping you “declutter/downsize” items you no longer can use but that others may. Contact Flea Market coordinators (Kathy Sitler (215-589-5423) or Cime Eklund (503-502-7691) with any questions that you may have regarding the Flea Market. Thank you for your interest and participation in this church-sponsored event.



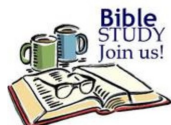
## **SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 15**

Children's Sunday School will begin on September 15 at **9:30 a.m.** Students will meet in the sanctuary for the opening of the worship service and the Children's Sermon, then proceed to the all-purpose room to begin their class. New students are welcome! Our weekly Bible lessons are based on the popular **Holy Moly** curriculum. Its creative short videos bring the Bible stories to life for students age 4 through grade 6. The Bible Story Book is written in rhyme and illustrated in graphic novel style. These lessons are real conversation-starters!



Learning together is fun! Look for a registration form in the church foyer or narthex or on our website to sign up. Student books and crafts will be ordered according to the number registered. Please contact the church office with any questions, or if you would be interested in serving on our staff.

Jeanne Gryska, Sunday School Director



## **SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY BEGINS SEPTEMBER 15**

Adult Bible Study will be led by George Henry at 10:45 a.m. on most Sunday mornings in the Parlor, located near the coffee bar. It will not be held on days when Church Council meets, which is usually the second Sunday of each month. (See calendar.) All adults are welcome and are encouraged to bring questions - perhaps related to a recent sermon or about Christian faith.



## **PING PONG AT ADVENT BEGINS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

The Ping Pong season at Advent will begin Tuesday, September 17 and continue weekly from **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**. Don't worry about how good you are! The goal is to provide some physical activity for all of us during the cold winter months. – Ray Heiss

## **PRAISE BAND AND VOCAL CHOIR PRACTICE BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

Church Choirs are restarting this Fall! We currently have a praise band and a traditional vocal choir. Practices will be held on Wednesday evenings, beginning September 18, except on October 2, when Mitch McVicker will perform. Praise Band practice is 6:30 - 7:15 p.m. Vocal Choir practice is 7:15 - 8:00 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to join! Prior experience is not necessary. Please see Mike Dettra for more details.

## **STUDY THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW on ZOOM: THURSDAYS at 7:00 p.m.**

**Thursday Night Bible Study** will begin September 26 at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom. We will Study the Gospel according to Matthew. We will be utilizing the "The Jewish Annotated New Testament" as one of our resources to delve deep into Jesus' times and to better understand this Gospel written to a Jewish-Christian audience.



## **MITCH MCVICKER IN CONCERT AT ADVENT - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 7 P.M.**

Advent is again pleased to have Mitchell McVicker, Christian recording artist, with us in concert on Wednesday, October 2, at 7 p.m. McVicker's concerts are little like Mark Twain meets MacGyver. His quirky and inventive approach includes insightful song lyrics, unconventional instruments, and profound storytelling. His concert connects the everyday with the otherworldly. McVicker's theology is daringly simple - God's love washes over and through us regardless of our circumstances and situations. Come out for an evening of enjoyable and inspirational music. A free will offering will be taken.



## **MEN'S BREAKFAST – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12**

The Men's Breakfast Board of Directors would not pay for the trip to France so that the chefs could explore new cuisine. Their advice was to put ketchup on anything and everything. Men's breakfast will meet on Saturday October 12. We plan to serve at 8:30. Coffee ready at 7:30.



## **PLEASE GIVE TO THE REBUILDING OF OUR CHURCH'S WEBSITE**

Please help support the website rebuild through a financial gift, which will defray the costs totaling \$14,535 (for the rebuild and web hosting for one year). To date, over \$5,200 has been donated. Thanks to all who have made and will be making a financial gift in support of the appeal. Checks can be made out to Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church (memo line: Electronic Service Appeal).



## **CHURCH SECURITY**

The church is regularly left unsecure as the external doors are left unlocked and/or unlatched when closed. The external doors do not always automatically latch when they swing shut.

When leaving the church building, please tug the door behind you to check that it has latched. If you possess a church key and are the last key bearer to leave the church (i.e. Non-key bearing people may still be in the building), please check and lock the external doors upon leaving. Thank you for your attentiveness.

## **WE WANT YOU**

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and during the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an Usher/Greeter, Altar Guild, Lay Reader, Acolyte. We also need a few people who are willing to spend an hour or so on Saturdays or really early Sunday morning to set up communion. Please see Pastor Matt or Gail Oines for more information. We will make sure you are trained and you can shadow help (follow someone) for a week or so until you are comfortable. Can't wait to see all of the new faces!



## **DONATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME**

Were you aware that not everyone can bake? Or that time is often at a premium? Or that some of us can't always be in church in person? If these questions have plagued you and perhaps you wish you could help at fellowship time more often than you do, you aren't alone. For that reason, and so we don't lose fellowship time altogether, consider donating a few dollars now and then and let someone else do the shopping/baking. All those hungry snackers will appreciate it!

## **THIS WEEK AT ADVENT**

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8– SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

#### **Return to Fall Schedule – No Sunday School**

- 8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time: George Henry
- 10:45 am Church Council

### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

- 12:00 pm Ladies Lunch at Advent – bring your own lunch

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

- 7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**

- 8:00 am Flea Market until 1:00 pm

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15– SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

- 8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion
- First Day of Sunday School for students age 4 to grade 6
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time: OPEN
- 10:45 am Adult Bible Study in the Parlor with George Henry

