

# THE PARISH POST

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT  
[www.cheshirecongregational.org](http://www.cheshirecongregational.org)

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## Let Summer Be a Sabbath Time

By Jeff Braun, Senior Minister

Traditionally defined, and within the Jewish tradition, Sabbath is the seventh day of week, observed from sundown Friday through sundown Saturday. Some Christians still observe Sabbath in this manner, but for most, Sabbath is Sunday.

At heart, Sabbath is about rest. Rest that re-grounds us in life's blessings. Rest that clears our minds and quiets the voices that chatter in our heads. Rest that allows us to get to ground, to recover from busyness, and (what's more) to truly replenish our sacred spiritual stores.

More loosely defined, Sabbath is any day – or any season – of rest. In that sense, summer can be a Sabbath of sorts. We are well served to observe it.

From the fragrance of fresh fruit at a farmers market (strawberries are my favorite) to the buttery crunch of homegrown lettuce, from the dewy cool of a woodland hike to the warmth we feel when we close our eyes and incline our faces toward the sun, from lemonade squeezed by hand (with *plenty* of sugar) to sand castles sculpted alongside a child (and

where the child in each of us inevitably resurfaces)... summer is a Sabbath for the senses. And for the soul.

Many of summer's Sabbath pleasures lure us outdoors. Like each of you, my mind brims with memories of summer trips, swims, picnics, and fun in the backyard (to name but a few).

And yet, I remember, as well, as a child, going to church with my family while school was out. I remember how people moved more intentionally, dressed more casually. I remember asking my father, "What are those wrinkly looking white pants with the thin blue stripes that man is wearing, Daddy?" ("Seersucker," he said.)

I remember the cool stillness of the sanctuary. And I remember how it didn't seem to be as much about what was said or not said, so much as just being there, just steeping in the stillness of the Spirit.

Wherever you find rest and refreshment within Creation's grand cathedral, within the humble walls of a church chapel or

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meetinghouse – or both – may we observe Sabbath this summer. May we hear God beckoning us, as Christ once beckoned the disciples: to pause, to slip away, and to set aside some peaceful moments to refresh and give thanks.

God's Peace,  
*Jeff*



## Help With Summer Fellowship

The fellowship times after the 10 a.m. services this summer will be coordinated by Anne Giddings. If you are able to contribute food for any of these, please leave it in the kitchen marked “fellowship,” or contact Anne at 203-272-9347 or [giddingsanne@yahoo.com](mailto:giddingsanne@yahoo.com).

She will be out of state on August 15, and is seeking hosts or hostesses for that Sunday. If you can serve then, please contact her. Thanks for all of the help that has been provided to the Fellowship Committee throughout the year.



## Church Office Summer Hours

Church office summer hours, which are 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, began on June 28 and will end on September 7, the day after Labor Day.

The office will be closed on Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day, and on Monday, September 6, for Labor Day.

## July-August Worship Schedule

**Sunday, July 4:** Single service at 10 a.m. Jeff Braun preaching. Communion will be served. Food offerings will be received; the food of the month is cold cereal.

**Sunday, July 11:** Services at 8 and 10 a.m. Alison McCaffrey preaching.

**Sunday, July 18:** Services at 8 and 10 a.m. Jeff Braun preaching.

**Sunday, July 25:** Services at 8 and 10 a.m. Jeff Braun preaching.

**Sunday, August 1:** Services at 8 and 10 a.m. Jeff Braun preaching. Communion will be served. Food offerings will be received; the food of the month is canned baked beans.

**Sunday, August 8:** Services at 8 and 10 a.m. Jeff Braun preaching.

**Sunday, August 15:** Services at 8 and 10 a.m. Alison McCaffrey preaching.

**Sunday, August 22:** Services at 8 and 10 a.m. Alison McCaffrey preaching.

**Sunday, August 29:** Services at 8 and 10 a.m. Alison McCaffrey preaching.

**Looking ahead:** On Sunday, September 5 and Sunday, September 12, there will be a single worship service at 10 a.m. September 5 is Labor Day Sunday; September 12 is Homecoming Sunday.

☞ We return to the usual 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship schedule starting Sunday, September 19.

## On the Other Shore

On occasion I have noted that our Parish Care Ministry provides a bridge between those with a pastoral need and those with a talent to help fulfill that need. Dedicated volunteers provide care through our Stephen Ministry, Caring Crafts, Small Chores, compassionate Christian Visitors, Meals, Cards, and Telephone Ministries – just to name a few. Usually, I complete the Parish Care message by detailing the amount of care we provide...and it's remarkable just how much we do on a regular basis. I will continue to report this in September.

However, without diminishing our ability to provide care for others in so many, many ways, I would like you to consider the other side of this metaphoric bridge. For just as it's vital that we reach out and provide care for one another, it is equally important that we grow and develop more care providers. This, then, is an invitation to be on the other shore and ready to cross the bridge between those in need and those who can help.

Many shy away from this invitation saying, "I don't have the time," or "I don't have the talent," or "I can't even seem to work through my own problems! How can I help someone else?" All of those concerns are valid, but (and you knew this message was going to have a "but") I think you would be surprised to learn how very much you can do without any disruption to your daily routine.

For example, how many of you make phone calls to friends and family on a

regular basis? What if you made just one more phone call – to someone who just needs a friendly voice for a few minutes? How about those of you who take pleasure in completing a small chore around the house? Or those who can't leave the house, but have a computer and time to keep track of our wonderful prayer pager ministry? And there is always the necessary, unseen ministry of keeping track of all that our church volunteers do.

The Parish Care Committee is taking a new look at how we are organized, and part of this process is to redefine some of the duties and responsibilities of the Parish Care Committee, its chairperson, as well as the position of Parish Care Coordinator. I will complete my tenure as Parish Care Coordinator in January 2011, and this too opens up new opportunities.

If you would like to be part of the bridge between those in need and those who need help or if you would like be on any of the ministries, they would love to talk with you. Over the coming months, please feel free to talk to anyone on the Parish Care Committee and ask questions about the areas of care in our church that need your help. Committee members are Pam and Ken Euerle, Jan Garthwait, Martha Lape, Jackie Cole, Bobbie Porter, Marianne Eagleson, Beth and Ken Ross, Sue Chatfield, John Bates, Dick Eppler, and myself.

*Donna Mead*

*Parish Care Coordinator*

Robert.mead@sbcglobal.net, 203-248-9576

## Summer Music Opportunities

**Summer Choir:** Our summer choir will prepare an easy anthem and lead the music in worship at the 10:00 service on Sunday, July 11. If you have ever thought about singing with the choir, or have done so in the past and would like to sing again, this is your chance to help lead worship through song. All are welcome.



The choir will meet at 9:15, prior to the service, to prepare the music.

**Soloists Needed:** If you sing or play and instrument and would like to offer a musical piece during any 10 a.m. worship service at some point throughout the summer, please contact Music Director Joe D'Eugenio. We are fortunate to have music throughout the entire church season, including the summer, thanks to the talent we have in our congregation. So please sign up to offer your talent in worship.



## Last Call for 'Stuff'

Do you have "stuff" stored somewhere in the church?

The Board of Trustees is going to clean house in September. All boards, committees, groups, and so forth are asked to sort through their "stuff" and clearly mark anything that is to be saved. If you haven't used it in a year, do you really need it? Everything that is not claimed will be tossed in the rented dumpster.

## Church Life Communities: Gilead

Our large congregation is now gathered into smaller geographical districts, called Church Life Communities, or CLC's, as a way to deepen our connections with one another. Our Deacons will soon begin using the CLC map as a tool.

There are 11 geographical areas: Jerusalem, Damascus, Gilead, Shiloh, Nazareth, Galilee, Canaan, Jericho, Bethlehem, Emmaus, and Judea. There is one virtual district, Alexandria, for our college students and out-of-state members.

This month we focus on Gilead, which has already enjoyed several fun evenings of "7 @ 7 Dinners" hosted by Nancy Brunetti. Gilead encompasses the towns of Wallingford and Durham, and in Cheshire, Gilead is bounded by Route 10 on the west, the Hamden town line to the south, and Jinny Hill Road, Coleman Road, and Wallingford Road, to the north.

Gilead Cheshire members live on the following streets: Boulder Road, Brookfield Court, Coleman Road, Cook Hill Road, Dalton Road, Deana Rose Place, Mansion Road, Minna Court, Philson Court, Tamarack Road, Thorn Hollow Road, Wallingford Road (West end), Wildflower Place, and Wyndemere Court. If your street is near these named streets, but not listed here, please let us know. We want to include you.

If you would like to be a part of organizing a fellowship event for Gilead, please let me know.

*Alison McCaffrey*

## Christian Education in July and August

**Summer Church School** is in full swing, with the children focused on “God Sightings.” A few more teacher and helper slots are available; please check your calendars and contact [patricenoah@cox.net](mailto:patricenoah@cox.net) if you can help out. We need two Safe Church-qualified adults at each session.

**Vacation Bible School** planning is also in full swing. The advertising in the community has brought some new children to the program. Please get your



registrations in quickly so that we can complete the planning for the program. For more information, send an e-mail

to [FCCCheshireVBS@gmail.com](mailto:FCCCheshireVBS@gmail.com). VBS is scheduled for August 2 through August 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., for \$25 per child. The program will use the curriculum called High Seas Expedition. Before and after care is available at an hourly rate. Please go to the church web site or send e-mail requesting more information from Linda Milton at [FCCCheshireVBS@gmail.com](mailto:FCCCheshireVBS@gmail.com).

**CE Board Babysitting Night:** Want to take your sweetie out for a night on the town? Need a break in the summer to do some evening errands? The Board of Christian Education is offering Saturday evening babysitting at the church on June 26th from 5:30 to 10 p.m. The cost is \$5 per hour per child. There will be adult

supervision. Children will be entertained with videos, games, crafts, and storytelling. Proceeds will support the Vacation Bible School expenses. Sign up now at [FCCCheshireBsit@gmail.com](mailto:FCCCheshireBsit@gmail.com).

**Search Committee for new CE Director:** The CE Director Search Committee has re-opened the original search for a new CE director, with two additional candidates coming forth. The full search committee is engaged in the search processes. More advertising will kick off in the next few weeks through the Conference and at a few Divinity Schools. The CE Board along with some wonderful volunteers are trying to fill the gaps short term, but the planning for the fall needs to kick off as soon as possible.

*Linda Milton*

### ◆ YUTES News

**Youth Sunday:** Youth Sunday this year was a big hit! Thank you to all the youth that helped lead worship. A special thanks to Connor Jason, Marina Olesen, and Karen Brunetti for sharing their experiences during the 30 Hour Famine. The YUTES would also like to thank Joe D'Eugenio for helping choose some great songs to go along with our theme and service. The end of the year picnic following Youth Sunday was a great way to end the year, as always. The Brunettis are great hosts, and we thank them for their gracious hospitality.

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**Mission Trip:** Our program year winds down, but we look forward to the summer with a focus on our mission trip. The YUTES will travel to Mifflinburg, Pa., from July 11 to 18. We look forward to serving and helping elderly, disabled, and low-income people fix their homes. Each year we're amazed by how much the residents and community serve us, changing us all during the week, helping us learn and grow. Stay tuned to the website for mission trip updates and kick-off information for the fall.

**Middle School Midnight Run:** Our Middle School group will meet during the summer on July 26 and August 30. Please continue to support this ministry by coming during the summer and helping us make some meals to feed the hungry. We would like to invite any 6th grader entering Middle School to join us starting in July. We hope you're able to come and find out about our group. If you haven't heard about GaGa yet, you need to come and find out what the fun is all about!

*Todd Skrzyniarz  
Director of Youth Ministry*

Have you remembered  
First Congregational Church  
In your estate planning?  
There are many ways that your  
gifts can assure a bright future  
for our church!

## Oberammergau Return July 11

Please join us for worship on Sunday, July 11, when our church travelers are expected to return from the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany, to share reflections on their experiences and to serve as worship leaders.

Sent off with prayers of blessing, the 14 travelers left on June 29 for the 11-day trip, which culminates with the play. The Passion Play is performed every 10 years by the townspeople of the little village of Oberammergau. The original performance dates back to 1634, when the village prayed to be spared the ravages of the plague already rampant in Europe. In thankfulness to God that no one in the village died, the villagers vowed to put on the play every decade.

Other trip highlights include a stay in the northern lake district of Italy, travel through the Alps by bus and train, a view of the Matterhorn, stops in Innsbruck and Salzburg, Austria, and Munich, Germany. We thank you for your prayers and look forward to sharing our journey with you.



## Got a Scanner?

The History Committee is looking for a 35mm slide and negative scanner to preserve the huge collection of slides and negatives in our archives. If you have one you are no longer using, please consider donating it (or long-term lending it) to the History Committee.

## A Powerful Mission Memory

As I see nightly the devastation the oil spill is causing in the Gulf Coast, I am moved to tears as I reflect on the spirit, grit and warm-heartedness of those who live there.

Several tender yet powerfully moving moments come to mind that I will always treasure in my heart. Many happened as the First Congregational Church Mission Team was working on the house of Robert Smith, completing the necessary tasks to get a certificate of occupancy so he could move in.

Mr. Smith is a Korean War veteran whose home was completely knocked off its foundation and destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. He has been living in a Federal Emergency Management Agency trailer for four and a half years.

He did hire a contractor to rebuild his home, but the contractor took off with the rest of Mr. Smith's money and left his house unable to be occupied.

FEMA wants its trailers back – in this case, a tiny one covered with mildew. Mr. Smith described his tight quarters with a twinkle in his eye: “You should see the Jacuzzi the government gave me inside!” Each day Mr. Smith, impeccably dressed, sat on his small lawn chair and waited for his porch to be ready.

We had barely put half the railing up and he rushed over to sit on his porch and, as he said, “get a feel for it.”

With God’s grace, we were able to complete the necessary tasks to allow Mr.

Smith to move into his home. I will always remember that twinkle (or tear) in his eye and that wide grin when he sat on his completed porch. Even now, I smile as I think of him sitting there, grinning.

*Lisa Canas*



## Looking for Acolytes

Beginning with Homecoming Sunday on September 12, our Acolytes will kick-off a new year of service. Acolytes carry the flame of Christ’s light into our worship services, symbolizing God’s presence among us. At the end of each service, they carry the flame out again, to symbolize our call to bring the light of Christ into the world through our actions.

This ministry opportunity is open to youth in grades 5 through 12. All who have previously served as Acolytes are welcomed back, and new invitations will be offered to those not yet part of this growing ministry.

An orientation session for all Acolytes will be held in early September. Any questions? Please see Alison McCaffrey.

### Do You Like to Paint?

The Trustees have many church painting projects that need to be completed. If you would like to help, please call, 203-272-5323, or email the church office, [office@cheshirecongregational.org](mailto:office@cheshirecongregational.org).

## Notes from the Executive Board

The Executive Board met on June 1. Jeff thanked everyone for their work on the Field of Flags project and the participation in the Memorial Day parade. Jeff was amazed at how fast we were able to pull everything together to get the Field of Flags in place. More than 50 people showed up at the church on the Saturday before Memorial Day, and had all 5,487 flags in place within 2½ hours.

Photos of the Field of Flags are on the church's web page.

The banners created for the parade advertising Vacation Bible School and the Strawberry Festival cost \$182.71. Senior Deacon Jim Parys advised that he would ask the Board of Deacons to approve meeting this cost from the Deacons' funds.

Work on upgrading the sound/video system is being held in abeyance until total funding is assured.

The Church Funding Study Group will meet with resource people from the UCC Connecticut Conference offices, and will report on their progress at next month's meeting.

The Deacons approved the inclusion of a children's sermon in the first quarter of a regular worship service, with the option to modify the liturgy on special Sundays. This is set to begin in September .

Christian Education Director Lindsay Heyer has determined that she needs to resign due to health reasons. She had been hired to work 25 hours per week. The

Church by-laws indicate that for resignations, 90 days' notice should be given. Lindsay will not be able to give 90 days' notice. June 13 was her last Sunday. According to the by-laws, we must have a church meeting to accept her resignation as Director of Christian Education.

A motion to accept Lindsay Heyer's resignation, effective June 13, 2010, for health reasons, and to reactivate the CE Director Search Committee for her replacement was passed. The Congregation will be advised of this decision and a church meeting will be called as soon as possible.

With Vacation Bible School scheduled for August 2-6, we need to hire someone to handle this responsibility and possibly some other tasks. The CE Board has two candidates in mind for an interim; they are not church members.

The Board approved the Board of Christian Education's motion to hire a 2010 Vacation Bible School Director, to be coordinated by the Board of Christian Education, and the Senior Minister, who will be paid an amount equal to or less than the money budgeted for that period.

The Board is also studying a possible change to the by-laws that the CE Director position be treated the same as the other program staff (in other words, not the ministerial staff). The CE Director position does not require that person be an ordained or commissioned minister.

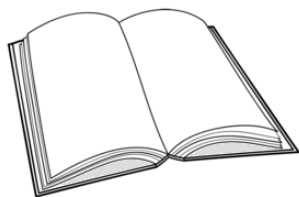
*Ford Cole*

## Help Us Preserve Our History

Preserving our church's history is a monumental task. We are at a crossroads, so to speak: Many of our records are becoming fragile and need to be preserved. Many of you are beginning to digitize your old photos to preserve them, and we need to do the same. We also have annual reports and architectural drawings from more than 100 years ago that need preservation.

All of this is now housed in a cramped closet next to the boiler room downstairs. If anything ever happened, like a flood or fire, our history would be gone. So we need your help. We need your memories.

We are creating a Memory Book to raise funds to help us with some of these preservation and digitization costs. We hope to have the book completed in time for Christmas. It will be a full color 8 x 10 coffee table type book full of photos and



memories of our church community. The book is about our church and our church family. How has the First Congregational Church of Cheshire touched your life? What memories do you have of the church itself? the sanctuary? the chapel? Do you remember when the steeple came down? or the ice cream socials?

The only requirement for submission is that the memory be directly related to our

church. We hope to have a small, sample book available soon for you to see.

There are a few other things: As much as we would love to accept submissions about your wedding, baptism, memorial service etc., we can't take all those.

However, if you think your service really stands out, make an argument for it and we may consider including it. What is not selected by the committee for inclusion will be put on a CD or DVD that will also be included with the book. This CD/DVD will be formatted as book pages, so anyone wishing to upload to blurb.com can print and bind their own version of the book with their submission included.

We are also accepting almost any kind of medium for the disc. So if you have video footage or audio footage, send it along. We don't have a way, at this time, to convert your home movies to digital format, but if video is already digital, send it along. If anyone has a way to convert 8-millimeter film, VHS tape, and so forth to digital and would like to volunteer, we'd be mighty appreciative!

If your four-year-old has drawn a picture of the Sunday School class, send it in! This is about our whole church family, from its youngest members to its oldest. We want your great-grandchildren to open this book and learn something about the history of our church today, as we are creating it.

There are a few ways to submit your

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memories;

1) You can go to <http://bit.ly/9hrKBl> and fill out our Submission form, but this is for written memories only.

2) You may also email your submissions to [fccmemorybook@gmail.com](mailto:fccmemorybook@gmail.com).

3) We hope to have a form on the church web site.

If you have any questions feel free to ask any of us when you see us at coffee hour or email us. We look forward to hearing from you!

*The History Committee: Church Historian  
Dick Epler, Dick Miller, Joy Deegan,  
Marshall Tucker, Martha Lape, Perry  
Stevens, Jan Garthwait and Christine  
Pittsley*

### Adoptive Gardeners Needed

We have picked up the limbs that blew down. We have raked the leaves. We have planted the pachysandra. Now, we need a few more people to help care for the many flowers and shrubs planted around the church.

Although many people have signed up to adopt an area, there are still several areas in need of an adoptive gardener to weed and mulch them. A sign-up poster in the connector lists the areas still in need. The three best-kept areas will receive a surprise gift this fall.

## A Great Year for Stepping Stones

We hope our youth had as much fun as we did this year. We helped a lot of people with our mission projects and had a great time. Games, caroling, movie night, Malawi night, bowling, and laser tag kept us busy.

To our fifth graders: We will see you again on the second Friday of September for our first Stepping Stones meeting. We'll come up with fun ideas for the year at our first meeting. Put it on your calendar so you don't forget.

To our sixth graders: You are going into seventh grade in the fall, and that means you are going into YUTES. Check out all the fun things that YUTES (7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades) have going on at [www.yutes.org](http://www.yutes.org). Not only are you invited to come to all of the YUTES events beginning in September, but also beginning in July, you are invited to join the seventh and eighth graders for Midnight Run. This program is just for our middle school kids and a great way to start getting involved in YUTES.

On the last Monday evening of every month (all year long!) from 6 to 8 p.m. we meet in Parish Hall and prepare bag lunches for the hungry of New Haven. Afterwards, we eat and play some games and hang out.

Have a great summer, and we'll see you in church.

*Your Stepping Stones Leaders,  
Kerrie Dunne, Kate Hall, Steve Mulholland,  
Joyce Mulholland, Mark Sprankel, and  
Director of Youth Ministry Todd Skrzyniarz*

**Milestones**  
in the life of our church family

**Milestone Birthday:**

Lois Brown celebrated her 100th birthday on June 11.

**Weddings:**

Tina Sullivan and Michael Gelada, on June 5.

**Baptisms:**

Abigail Rose Cropp, daughter of Michael and Bernadette Cropp, on June 13.

**Deaths:**

Virginia Williams on May 11.  
Doris Mullaney on May 25.  
Stephen Pritchard, son of Roy and Betty Pritchard, brother of Stacey, brother-in-law of Chris, May 25.  
Jessie Waszmer on May 30.



**We Say Thanks**

Again and always, I thank my church family and friends for keeping me in thoughts and prayers.

*Emma Norback*

My thanks to church friends for their concerns and prayers during my recent surgery. I enjoyed the beautiful flowers that Diane Visconti delivered, and enjoyed her visit.

*Beth Eichelman*

Thank you so very much for the thoughtful and beautiful floral arrangement on the one year death of my mother, Esther Barnes. I truly appreciate your kindness during this difficult time. Thank you to Joellyn Jason, who delivered the flowers.

*Robert Barnes and Beth Nesbit Barnes*

I wish to thank the church, and Jackie and Ford Cole, for delivering the beautiful flowers to me on the anniversary of my mother's passing. The thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated. It was a wonderful remembrance, as my mother greatly loved flowers.

*Stephen Prentice*



**Plenty to See on the Web Site**

Our church's web site, [www.cheshirecongregational.org](http://www.cheshirecongregational.org), is newsier and more up-to-date than ever.

Did you miss a Sunday worship service? Now you can find the worship bulletin on the site. The online Calendar also lists upcoming events at the church; click on any item for information about where in the church the event will take place. Want to know more about any of the church's many boards and committees – such as when they meet, what their purposes are, and the like? It's all on the web site.

Each month's Parish Post is on the site (going back to the summer of 2006), as well as Annual Reports from 2004 to the present, the latest copy of the church by-laws, and more. (Select "Publications & Reports.") Don't miss the photo galleries on the site!

## Lectionary for July and August

**Sunday, July 4:** 2 Kings 5: 1-14; Psalm 30; Isaiah 66: 10-14; Psalm 66: 1-9; Galatians 6: 1-16; Luke 10: 1-20.

**Sunday, July 11:** Amos 7: 7-17; Psalm 82; Deuteronomy 30: 9-14; Psalm 25: 1-10; Colossians 1: 1-14; Luke 10: 25-37.

**Sunday, July 18:** Amos 8: 1-12; Psalm 52; Genesis 18: 1-10; Psalm 15; Colossians 1: 15-28; Luke 10: 38-42.

**Sunday, July 25:** Hosea 1: 2-10; Psalm 85; Genesis 18: 20-32; Psalm 138; Colossians 2: 6-19; Luke 11: 1-13.

**Sunday, August 1:** Hosea 11: 1-11; Psalm 107: 1-9; Ecclesiastes 1:2 – 2:23; Psalm 49: 1-12; Colossians 3: 1-11; Luke 12: 13-21.

**Sunday, August 8:** Isaiah 1: 1-20; Psalm 50: 1-23; Genesis 15: 1-6; Psalm 33: 12-22; Hebrews 11: 1-16; Luke 12: 32-40.

**Sunday, August 15:** Isaiah 5: 1-7; Psalm 80: 1-19; Jeremiah 23: 23-29; Psalm 82; Hebrews 11:29 - 12:2; Luke 12: 49-56.

**Sunday, August 22:** Jeremiah 1: 4-10; Psalm 71: 1-6; Isaiah 58: 9-14; Psalm 103: 1-8; Hebrews 12: 18-29; Luke 13: 10-17.

**Sunday, August 29:** Jeremiah 2: 4-13; Psalm 81: 1-16; Sirach 10: 12-18; Psalm 112; Hebrews 13: 1-16; Luke 14: 1-14.