



# TIDINGS

WESTHAMPTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**JULY/AUGUST 2023**

## **A Word from your Pastor**

This summer, we are having a bible study entitled “Why Presbyterians are Like That.” And for those of you in the study, you may have already heard some of this. But the question remains—what makes Presbyterians special? What makes them different or similar to other denominations? Can you answer those questions? Don’t feel badly if you can’t, you are in good company! Each church has its own unique composition and perspectives and it’s easy to forget the importance of other churches in our presbytery and around the nation. So, what makes us the way that we are?

First, Presbyterians affirm what is laid out in the Nicene and Apostles Creeds. The main points of these creeds are the following:

- God created the heavens and earth
- Jesus had a human mother like all of us
- Jesus was uniquely related to God
- Jesus lived an exemplary life
- Jesus was unjustly betrayed and executed
- Jesus was resurrected on Easter and remains our living Lord.

Of course, there is a great variety in the beliefs of Presbyterians across the country, and we are not the only Christians who emphasize these elements of faith, but we distinguish ourselves by the ways in which we live out our particular beliefs.

In addition to the beliefs outlined in these creeds, there are elements of faith on which Presbyterians have a particular stance.

The Bible—we believe studying the Bible prayerfully and together helps us figure out which things matter more than other things.

Grace happens—it is given freely by God and there is nothing on Earth we can do to earn God’s grace.

God’s grace invites our response—God’s unconditional love invites and empowers us to respond gratefully to God’s grace through worship and serving others.

God gave us brains and expects us to use them—we believe nothing in the Bible ever calls or requires us to pretend we don’t know the things we actually do know about science, literature, history or anything else.

We are beloved, gifted, capable, and safe. Already. Right now.

God calls us to be on the side of the ones who are having the hardest time.

Nobody is perfect

There’s more Holy Spirit in a bunch of us than in any single one of us.

God isn’t finished but continues to respond to human sin by loving, calling, pursuing, empowering, and inspiring us to live with hope in a world where sin and death are real.

So, what do you think? Does this fit in with your beliefs and understanding of God and our church? In what ways is it similar or different? The statements above are not meant to be the end of the conversation, but the start.

If you find these topics exciting and interesting, please consider joining us at 10:00am for our summer bible study at the Beach Bakery at 112 Main St. in Westhampton Beach.

I hope you are able to enjoy this beautiful place in which we live this summer.

Blessings,  
Rev. Vanessa Winters

## \*Prayer Concerns:

**Recent:** Inda Lawson, Diane Perry's niece; **Jane Busking; Vita Collery**, cancer, cousin of Karen Derryberry; **Ralph Neubauer; Pat Bebon; Amanda Walters**, cancer, friend of Karen Derryberry; **Helen Fitzsimons; Kevin Fitzgerald; Marjorie Ridgway**, home; **Seamus Naughton**, home;

**Long Term:** **Kimberly Rogers Murawski; Dean Speir**, Gale Seidler's brother; **Ralph Downs**, Florida; **Phyllis Styrzo**, Hamptons Center for Rehab; **Dana Barrett**, friend of Nancy Miller; **Chelsey Carter Collins**, Hamptons Center for Rehab; **Ellen Pfaff; Dottie Evans**

## From the Choir Loft

Choir rehearsal will resume again Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>.



## Worship with us this Summer!

9am Quogue Chapel service

10:15am Sanctuary service followed by refreshment hour

## Church Family News

### Memorial Services

**July 29:** John Thornton

**August 6:** Gordon Hubbard



### Summer Bible Study

Please join Rev. Vanessa for a summer Bible study entitled "Why Presbyterians are Like That", engaging the polity and theology of our own denomination with scripture. We will be meeting the 2nd through the last Thursdays of the month at 10:00am (excluding the first Thursday of the month) at the Beach Bakery in downtown WHB. Any questions, please reach out to Rev. Vanessa, we hope you join us!

**Inclement weather: Group will be moved to the church conference room.**

## "Grillin' & Chillin' " Fundraising Event

Get your tickets for our Summer Fundraiser **GRILLIN' & CHILLIN'** on Saturday July 22 at 5pm at the home of Susan Lipp, 22 White Oak Lane, WHB. Music is by Bill Buhl and Friends, food by MapleTree BBQ. Donation \$50. Tickets available during coffee hour, in the church office or at Lynne's Cards and Gifts. You won't want to miss the fun.

If you are interested in being a sponsor, please contact a member of the fundraising committee, Vanessa or Erika.



## Church Picnic

How wonderful to once again gather in fellowship at this year's annual Church Picnic. We thank all those who shared a side dish, they were enjoyed by all! Special thanks to both the adults and youth who either helped set up, grill, provide games and activities to the children and help with the clean-up. As always, "many hands make light work" and our picnic would not be possible without the help of our generous volunteers. Happy Summer!

## Deacons

We welcome volunteers to sign up to usher. We need two ushers for the sanctuary and two for the chapel. Simply sign up on the list on the bulletin board in the Parrish Hall lobby area, or give Margie Qua a call at 631 902-6337 (c) or email at [gossnellqua@yahoo.com](mailto:gossnellqua@yahoo.com). Thanks to all for participating in this fun form of service!

Don't forget to sign up for flowers each Sunday!

## PW News

Our message is brief. Nine or ten of the P.W. met June 14th for the Annual June Strawberry Shortcake lunch. We were greeted with Red, White & Blue table settings courtesy of Betsy Doyle-thank you. Thank you too for helping serve the shortcakes.

(Before going on, I owe Cheryl and Erika huge thanks for helping prepare the strawberries all 14 quarts!)

Christine reviewed the 2nd Annual Community Yard Sale held on Saturday, May 27, 2023. The profits did not surpass 2022, however there were multiple events competing on that day. We were not disappointed to learn our Treasurer, Gale Seidler, accepted \$1,650.15 profit from the sale!

Please look for any news of our July meeting in the church bulletin.

## Congratulations Graduates!

Andrew Hempel, SUNY Stonybrook

Cole Hempel, Cornell University

Lisa Jornitz, Eastport South-Manor HS



*WPC Summer BBQ Fundraiser*

*Grillin'  
& Chillin'*

*In the Garden at the Home of Susan Lipp*

*Join us for good food, friends and fun!*

*Food catered by Maple Tree BBQ*

*Live Entertainment by Bill Buhl & Friends*

*Wine, Beer and a signature cocktail*

22 White Oak Lane

Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

Saturday, July 22nd

5:00 pm

*(Rain date: Sunday, July 23rd at 5:00 pm)*

Tickets available:

Sundays after worship,  
Lynne's Cards & Gifts, or

Church office:

631-288-2576

**Recommended**

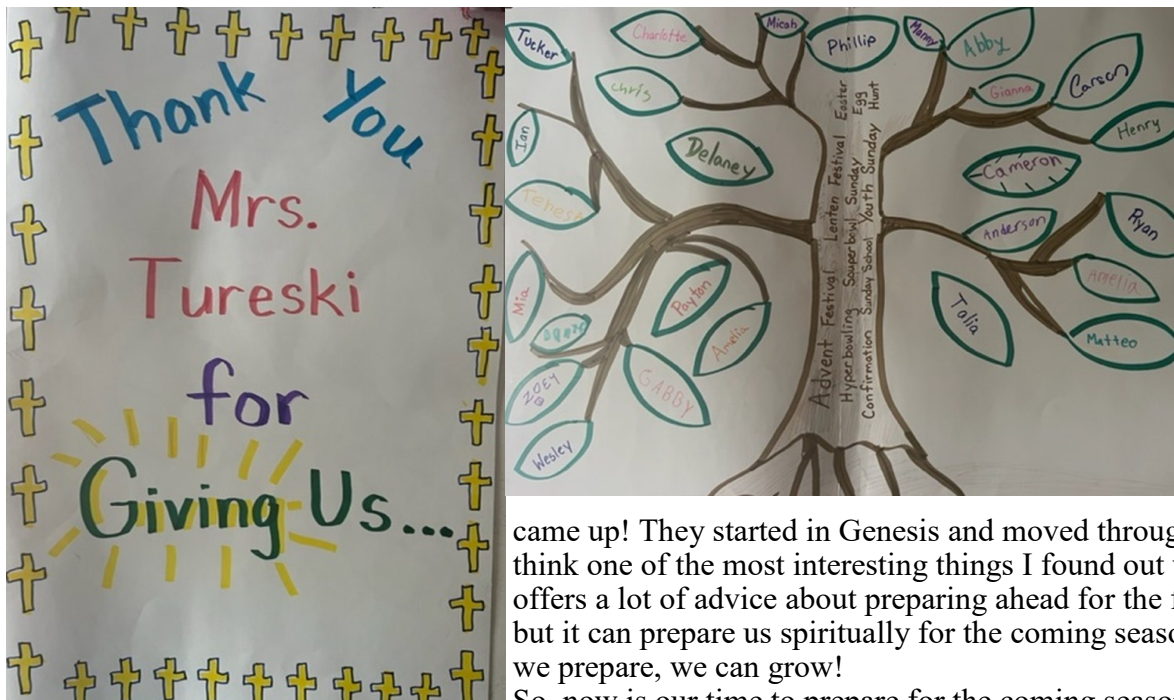
**Donation: \$50**

**Ticket deadline:**

**Sunday, July 16th**



## Youth Group & Sunday School



Out of curiosity how many of you knew that the Bible contains verses about summer? As I was looking for some inspiration to write my “summer” tidings article I decided to Google religious quotes about summer. More than twenty-five Bible verses

came up! They started in Genesis and moved throughout the Bible. I think one of the most interesting things I found out was that Proverbs offers a lot of advice about preparing ahead for the fall/winter seasons, but it can prepare us spiritually for the coming seasons in our life. If we prepare, we can grow!

So, now is our time to prepare for the coming seasons!!

Calling all parents to fill out the Sunday School registration form for the 2023-2024 year. Forms will be available in the church office, youth bulletin board and sent to email addresses I have on file from this year. Hopefully, we will be able to offer the following class sections: PreK – K; 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> OR PreK – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup>. Classes will be adjusted per our teacher volunteers & substitutes once we get an accurate head count/grade level. I’m looking for volunteers to teach Sunday School next fall. Ideally two people but we can make it work with one (or maybe you have someone to “team” teacher with!!!) Anyone interested in being on our substitute list? Questions or more information, I can be reached @ [whpresbyterianss@gmail.com](mailto:whpresbyterianss@gmail.com).

Be on the lookout for emails to the youth group (7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) about preparing for some summertime events/activities to attend and host. If you’re not on the list, or looking for more info email: [whpresbyterianyg@gmail.com](mailto:whpresbyterianyg@gmail.com)

I want to give a BIG round of applause to our Sunday School volunteers: Teachers & helpers- Eloise, Marie, Scott, Cindy, Betsy & Kimet, and to all our parents that helped during one of our festivals or brought in snacks, and brought your child(ren) to Sunday School. It can’t happen without you.

I’d like to say thank you to Eloise & Marie for putting together my thank you that I was given. I absolutely love my gigantic card, plant and “Giving Tree” sun catcher. (see photos!)

Lastly, I’d like to leave you with the ant analogy in Proverbs 30:25 that I came across in my summertime search: from **Pray with Confidence** “Ants are wise. They may be small and seem weak but they have great wisdom! They reserve food for times ahead. They work hard when the time is suitable, keeping an eye on the future and save for when a season comes that is not favorable for gathering food. Are you wise like an ant? What lesson can you learn from them?”

Happy Summer,  
Kathy



## Memorial Scholarship Recipients 2023

The Memorial Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of this year's Memorial Scholarship awards. All four recipients are continuing undergraduate students:

**Carter Cline** will be continuing his studies as a sophomore at Denison University in Ohio.

*As a college sophomore, I can't help but reminisce about the experiences that shaped my journey here. Every Sunday, I eagerly attended Sunday School, where I learned valuable morals...that still guide me today. The lessons taught me compassion, empathy and the importance of being kind to others. Yet, it was the holiday services that held a special place in my heart. Those gatherings brought my family closer as we celebrated joyous occasions together, cherishing traditions that spanned generations. I am forever grateful for the foundation my childhood church provided, instilling in me the values that shaped who I am today.*

**Sophie Cline** continues her academic journey at Stanford University.

*Growing up in the church and attending Sunday School/being a part of Youth Group for many years has had a profound effect on my upbringing and who I am as a person. In the church I learned the value of kindness, forgiveness, compassion, generosity and many other wonderful traits which I have carried with me since I was very young. I saw first-hand the importance of giving back to your community and doing good for others, lessons which have prompted me to continue pursuing community service in my higher education. I have no doubt that my upbringing in the church has helped to mold me into the person I am today and will continue to shape my choices as I move forward.*

**Julia Ketner** will be continuing her education at Suffolk County Community College this fall.

*I've attended Westhampton Presbyterian Church with my family for as long as I can remember. When I think back on my church experiences, I remember nice people who were always willing to serve others. While serving as a youth deacon, I became strongly aware of this. When a family was suffering or ill, it was clear that everyone was willing to make home visits, cook meals or contribute in other ways to lift their spirits. When I lost my father in high school, many people came out and shared their prayers, acting as a second family. It's wonderful to know that there is a community of individuals that support you and will be there for you in difficult times. I also had a lot of fun being a part of the youth group and taking part in all the food drives and fundraisers we did. Westhampton Presbyterian Church has a strong, loving community that I am proud to be a part of!*

**Madison Mosher** plans to continue her studies at West Chester University in Pennsylvania.

*Being a member of Westhampton Presbyterian Church for as long as I can remember has impacted my life in many ways. It has taught me many values throughout my time there and has given me life lessons I will never forget. I have gotten a majority of my community service hours through church and I have enjoyed doing all of them. As I am almost about to end my first year of college, I have recognized how much community service work and giving back to the community is important. During my spring semester, I was blessed with having the opportunity to join the Alpha Phi Epsilon Kappa chapter at West Chester University. It was a last minute decision that I really pondered on because I would have never seen myself doing this ever. As I got initiated and learned more about my chapter I understood how much we gave back to the community and our philanthropy cause, women's heart health. Along with that, my chapter and I have brought awareness about other causes that are currently affecting our society right now, such as eating disorders, sexual assault, and even global warming. Being able to participate in something like this came easy to me because of my experiences with the church and helping different causes. It also has affected me because I have learned to believe in myself more, along with having faith.*

## Finance Committee Update

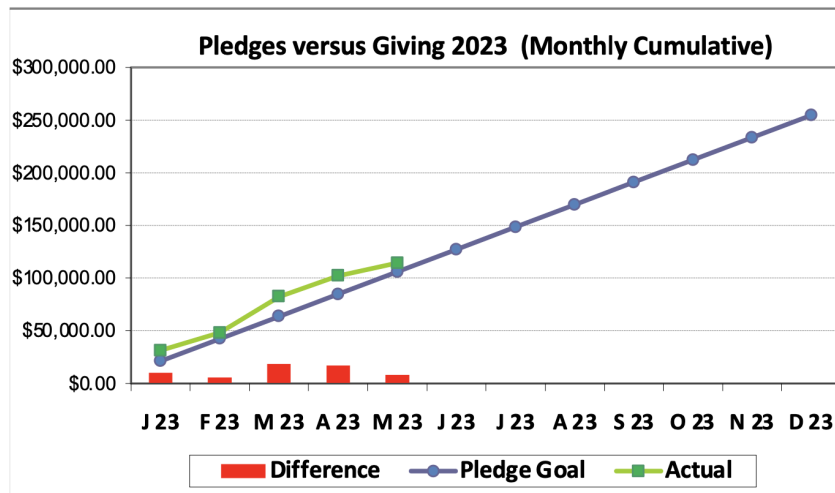
Dear friends,

We are reaching the half year mark of 2023 and we thought it would be of importance to inform you about the financial health of our church, especially how our actual numbers look versus the budget 2023.

The cumulative May pledge goal was \$106,095 and the May actual giving is \$114,395, which means we have a slight positive difference between goal and actual of \$8,300. As it can be seen in the graphic below the giving's took a dip and have not been as strong from the start of the year.

We would like to encourage any church member who pledged to please check for the current giving's status versus pledge. Any giving increase is highly appreciated and of utmost support for our church!

### Pledges - Givings



The church's May actual income year-to-date total is now \$215,256 and expenses \$195,505, which means the year-to-date difference between income and expense to \$18,752. However, we must realize that within the stated income is a \$50,000 support funding from the Memorial & Endowment Fund, which means our income would only be \$165,256 and we would be \$30,000 in the red.

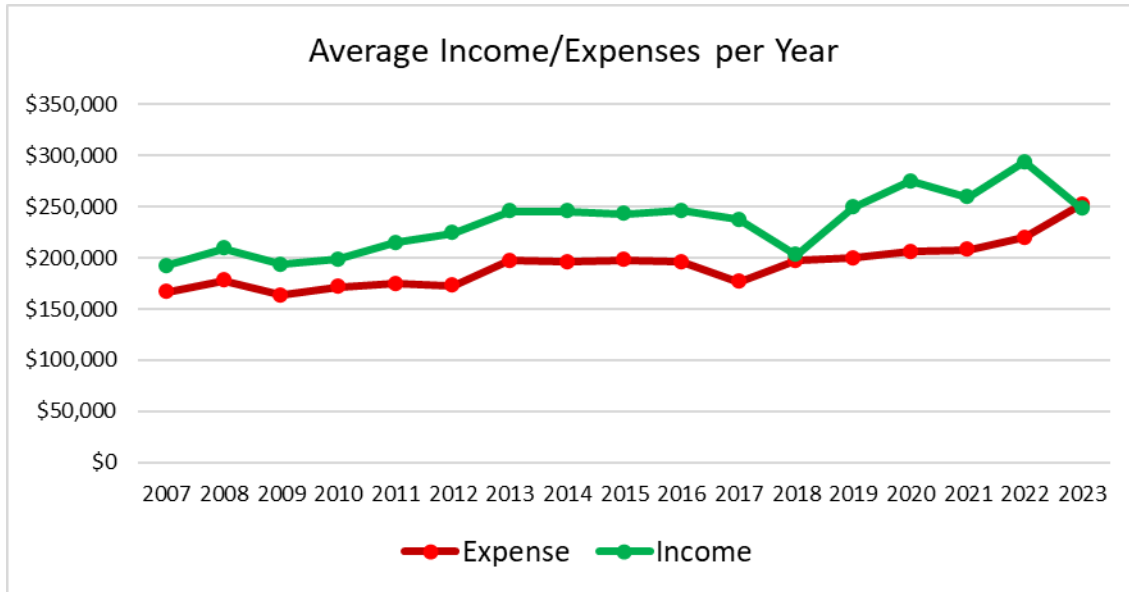
This means that the financial health of our church is not as we all would like to see it and it may get worse as the remaining M&E support is only another \$12,520. Just as an example, last year May we did not use any M&E support and our cumulative net income was at a healthy \$21,152.

*(Continued on page 7)*



(Continued from page 6)

Below graphics shows the average expense versus income, which showed a positive deviation of income versus expenses in most of the years. However, utilizing a run rate for 2023 and average the run, one can see that this year will be an undesirable financial outcome for our church with the potential need to tap deeper into our M&E reserves.



All of us do not want to have this happen, therefore we would like to ask you to review your current giving's versus your pledge or your ability to donate to our church to gain a better financial health for our church. We all are under the constraints of higher inflation rates and economic uncertainties, but if you can support in any way, it would be highly appreciated!

Our church is blessed by your contributions, your support and all the volunteers who add to our financial stability. Hereby, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all you!

Respectfully submitted, Your Finance Committee







# HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

## July

1 Henry Neubauer  
 1 Nalda Rothe  
 3 Christian Charles  
 3 Jennifer Truscott & Gale Sheridan  
 4 Kyle Miller  
 5 Gale Seidler  
 5 Charlotte Gillin  
 7 Gil Frevert  
 7 Ashley Jade Harvey  
 9 Frank Jessup  
 9 Jennifer Truscott  
 10 Millie Cary  
 11 Cheryl Van Tuyle  
 11 Grant Frevert  
 12 Rev. John Kloepfer  
 14 SuzAnne and Frank Jessup  
 16 Kathy Tilley  
 16 Linda Howard-Kloepfer  
 17 Stephanie Oakland  
 19 Korey Williams  
 22 Helen Fitzsimmons  
 23 Jennean Jessup Levitt  
 23 Dennis Kingwell  
 23 Sophie Cline  
 24 Jackie Moore  
 24 Lauren Babis  
 25 Rev. Vanessa & Chris Winters  
 27 Pat Speed  
 27 Stacy Jessup  
 28 Rev. Vanessa Winters  
 29 Scott Frevert  
 29 Bill McDaris  
 29 Kathy and Bob Johnson  
 29 Gigi & Matt Ravenhall  
 30 Daniel Qua  
 30 Leland Qua  
 31 Mary and John Hoch  
 31 Deborah Busking

## August

1 Kathy and Warren Frevert  
 1 Robert Larson  
 2 John Sartorius  
 2 Bill Brenner  
 4 Tom Rogers  
 4 Guy Napolitano  
 4 Joan King  
 5 Gini Wagner  
 6 Chelsey Carter Collins  
 6 Wes Winters  
 9 Carson Campbell  
 10 Warren Frevert  
 10 Cynthia Drayton  
 14 Stephanie Miller  
 14 Chandi Jackson  
 15 Owen Williams  
 16 Judy and John Sprague  
 21 Betsy and Bob Fox  
 23 Rico Johnson, Jr.  
 23 Sandy and Ed Surgan  
 23 Kathy and Bob Tureski  
 24 Ava Lundborg  
 24 Nancy & Harry Miller  
 24 Judy & John Sartorius  
 25 Rob Tureski  
 25 Edmund Carey  
 26 Ellen & Bill Brenner  
 27 Caroline Oakland  
 27 Skye Lily Charles  
 28 Jane & Tom Otis  
 30 Gianna Aiello  
 30 Lochan Francis Miller  
 31 Dick Anderson  
 31 Pat & Dick Lutz  
 31 Anderson Hipp  
 31 Eloise Fox  
 31 Edward T. Otis, V





# July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>AA:</b>            Sat. 10am –Choir Rm            Sun. 12pm—Conference Rm            Sun. 6:30pm– Parish Hall            Wed. 6:30pm– Parish Hall            Boy Scouts meet each Fri. 5pm</p>						1
2 5th Sunday after Pentecost 9am Chapel 10:15am Sanctuary	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5	6 10am Men's Fellowship Group	7	8
9 6th Sunday after Pentecost 9am Chapel 10:15am Sanctuary	10	11	12	13 10am Summer Bible Study @ Beach Bakery	14	15
16 7th Sunday after Pentecost 9am Chapel 10:15am Sanctuary	17	18	19	20 10am Summer Bible Study @ Beach Bakery	21	22 5pm Grillin' & Chillin Summer BBQ Fundraiser-Susan Lipp's Garden
23 8th Sunday after Pentecost 9am Chapel 10:15am Sanctuary	24	25	26	27 10am Summer Bible Study @ Beach Bakery	28	29 11am Memorial Service—John Thornton
30 9th Sunday after Pentecost 9am Chapel 10:15am Sanctuary	31					

# August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>AA:</b>                      Sat. 10am –Choir Rm                      Sun. 12pm—Conference Rm                      Sun. 6:30pm– Parish Hall                      Wed. 6:30pm– Parish Hall                      Boy Scouts meet each Fri. 5pm</p>		<p>1                      7pm Deacons</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3                      10am Men's Fellowship Group</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6                      10th Sunday after Pentecost                      9am Chapel                      10:15am Sanctuary                      1pm Memorial Service—Gordon Hubbard</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8                      6pm Session</p>	<p>9                      9:15am Mission                      10:30am Staff                      12pm PW Luncheon</p>	<p>10                      10am Summer Bible Study @ Beach Bakery</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13                      11th Sunday after Pentecost                      9am Chapel                      10:15am Sanctuary</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15                      7pm Trustees</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17                      10am Summer Bible Study @ Beach Bakery</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20                      12th Sunday after Pentecost                      9am Chapel                      10:15am Sanctuary</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24                      10am Summer Bible Study @ Beach Bakery</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27                      13th Sunday after Pentecost                      9am Chapel                      10:15am Sanctuary</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31                      10am Summer Bible Study @ Beach Bakery</p>		