



# *The Grapevine*



## *Summer Daze*

**Reverend Edward Dunn**

Aah...summer! What are your summer plans? Is a vacation away or a staycation at home part of your calendar of events in July and August? Are beach days included on your list of things to do, or are you looking forward to time on the boat? Summer is a season for play and recreation, cookouts and picnics. Whatever your plans, keep in mind the safety and health of everyone: don't overdo it, take breaks from the heat of the day, and keep hydrated.

Summer is also a time to prepare and plan. I find these months a productive time to consider our next steps for the coming seasons. When we celebrate Independence Day, I'll be thinking about Fall and Christmas activities and even though the church calendar might look rather quiet, know that work is happening to prepare for September through May.

There are several upcoming events planned over the next two months. I hope you will join us for an Ice Cream Social on July 16 after worship and the beach picnic on July 26. I encourage you to add to the collection of school supplies for Beth-El and Palma Sola Elementary; to bring food goods for the Food Bank of Manatee; and join in the weekly worship of our church as we explore our ancestors in faith through the stories found in Genesis.

And I want you to note some things that will happen this Fall, including a Ministry Fair and Breakfast on September 17 th . This will be an opportunity to consider where and how to serve in outreach, grow in faith, and join in fellowship for the coming year. The following week, September 24, will mark the beginning of a new Christian Education class at 8:45a.m.

Later in the season we will host a Rise Against Hunger event; share in fellowship with our neighbors at Brookdale; celebrate our Presbyterian heritage; and welcome our neighbors to Trunk or Treat event at Halloween. The season of Advent (late November thru December 24) will also include a weekly study titled, The Bible and Handel's Messiah, in which we will listen to the music and read the Biblical passages that it shares.

All of these events will take place while we take the final steps to officially become United Presbyterian Church. The Joint Merger Committee continues to work out the details and the plan for uniting Palma Sola and Westminster. Isaiah's prophecy that God is doing a new thing is truly coming to a reality in our work, worship, and connections as a church. I am eager to consider and be part of the opportunities available to us as 2024 begins.

However, in the meantime, let's pause for a time to enjoy summer, for there is much to look forward to doing in the coming months.

Aah...summer!

Edward

## **HOW TO ORDER CHURCH ENVELOPES**

Offering Envelopes are available by calling Dina Breneman at 941-792-3141, Gregg Pead at 941-348-0773 or email Gregg at [peedethree@gmail.com](mailto:peedethree@gmail.com).

## *Palma Sola Session Highlights*

- Approved starting a Sunday morning Bible class, beginning on September 24th from 8:45AM to 9:45AM in the church parlor, using 'The Present Word' quarterly curriculum from the PCUSA.
- Approved having an ice cream social after worship on Sunday, July 16th in Fellowship Hall, with a suggested donation of \$5 to go to the Food Bank of Manatee.
- Approved allocating \$4,000 for a Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event in Fellowship Hall in early 2024.
- Endorsed plans for a churchwide Beach Picnic on July 26th.
- Concurred with the plan to reduce the number of announcements before worship on Sundays, by having Outreach announcements only on the first and third Sundays of the month.

## *United Presbyterian Church Joint Merger Committee Update*

It may look like not much has happened, but that is not true. Multiple task groups have been working on tasks that need to be completed before the merger occurs.

The Rationale for Merger has been created and is being reviewed before sending it to Peace River Presbytery.

A recommendation on organizing the new Session and Deacons has been provided to each of existing Sessions.

We are currently reviewing our insurance options for our new church.

Task groups are looking into a new outdoor sign and new United Presbyterian Church logos for letter head, other communications, and possible apparel.

A new social media approach is being investigated and designed to make us more visible for neighbors looking for a new Christian home.

Please continue to pray for your new church and the work we are doing to prepare the way.

Rich Wachunis  
For the Joint Merger Committee

# Mission Spotlight: The Food Bank of Manatee

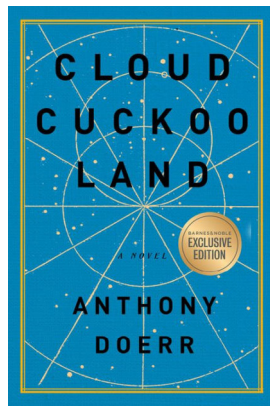
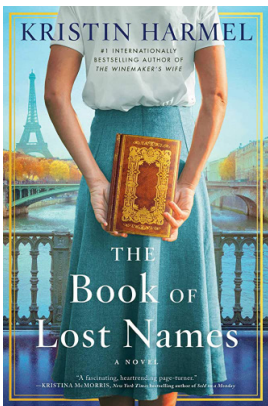
Food Security is one of our church's focus areas for community outreach and support. The need in our community is great – now more than ever. Our Outreach Offering and DOES It programs in the summer will go to one of our main mission partners in this cause, The Food Bank of Manatee.

With twenty-four schools in Manatee County designated as Community Eligibility Program (CEP) schools, the summer food needs in our community are high. As a CEP school, 100% of students enrolled qualify to receive free breakfast and lunch because the schools are in low-income neighborhoods where food insecurity is prevalent. During the summer months, the school district continues to provide meals to children during the week at the School District of Manatee Summer Break Spots. On Fridays during the summer months, The Food Bank provides additional Food4Families bags at those Break Spots to families in need of vital nutrition. These bags contain breakfast, lunch, and dinner to feed a family of five for two or more days. That is 30 meals – keeping families fed through the weekend.

In the summer of 2023, it is the goal of The Food Bank to provide at least 20,000 meals each week for children and their families. During the nine-week summer break, that is at least 180,000 meals! With the rising costs of food impacting everyone, the cost to provide each meal is approximately \$1, which means The Food Bank needs to raise at least \$180,000 to feed children and families through this summer program.

Please fill the yellow barrels in the Narthex with non-perishable food items and consider making a monetary contribution to help sack summer hunger, making a life-saving impact to Manatee County's most vulnerable.

## Palma Sola Book Club



**JUL 10 | 12 - 1PM    AUG 14 | 12 - 1PM**

Join in any second Monday at 12pm in the library or on Zoom for fun conversation.

### 2023 READING LIST

For more information, call Vicki Schooley at (941) 518-2315.

## Men's Group



### MEN'S GROUP

You're invited to attend the Morning Men's Group. Get to know the men you see in church. Share your story. Enjoy fellowship.

**MEETINGS START AT 8:30A**

**JUL 6 - Fellowship and breakfast | Poppi's Place restaurant**

**AUG 3 - Fellowship & a discussion about Christian Living | Fellowship Hall**

Please contact Rich Wachunis  
[rwachunis@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:rwachunis@tampabay.rr.com)



# Summer Spruce Up

Help us refresh the of a space for our youngest participants. The church nursery needs to be organized to help us make this into a welcoming place for anyone who needs a play area or respite from worship. Would you like to join our team? If so, contact Gail Dickerson at [gaild.pspc@gmail.com](mailto:gaild.pspc@gmail.com)

Celebrate National Ice Cream Day!

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

We ALL scream for ICE CREAM! Gather after worship on Sunday, July 16th to celebrate National Ice Cream Day with an old-fashioned ice cream social! Join together in Fellowship Hall where ice cream and a variety of toppings will be available for a suggested donation of \$5 to benefit The Food Bank of Manatee. Don't miss out on this opportunity for fellowship and fun and to raise money for hunger relief in our local community. To go containers will also be available. See you there!

Sunday, July 16 - After Worship

## Beach Dinner & Walk

Manatee Public Beach  
Wednesday, July 26th at 5:30 pm

You are invited to celebrate the midpoint of summer with a Beach Walk and Dinner at Manatee Public Beach on Wednesday, July 26th at 5:30 pm. Gather on the south side at the tables under the trees for chicken, watermelon, chips and fun, then we will walk the beach and watch the sunset. The event is free, just bring your own beverage plus an extra chair if you want. Friends and family are welcome! Sign-up in the Narthex or call the church office so we know how many to plan for. Contact Gail Dickerson 941-224-1117 with questions.

TAMPA BAY RAYS VS. PITTSBURG PIRATES  
Game Starts @ 4:10p



## FAITH DAY WITH THE RAYS AUGUST 12TH, 2023

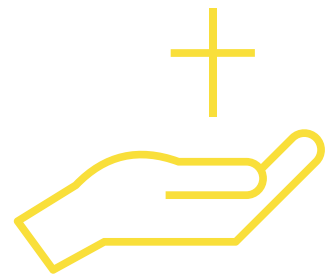
\$35

Includes Rays hat, post game players testimonies and Shane McClannahan Bobblehead. More details and sign up sheets will be in the Narthex. Contact Gail Dickerson 941-224-1117

Would you like to be  
a Lay Reader, Serve  
Communion or Usher?



**Lay Reader:** To prepare the worshippers to receive the pastor reading of God's Word.



**Serve Communion:** The First Sunday of each month. Communion is a symbolic way to show we belong to Jesus and to remember what He did for us.



**Ushers:** A great way to meet everyone and make them feel comfortable

Contact Gail Dickerson at 941-224-1117 or [gaild.pspc@gmail.com](mailto:gaild.pspc@gmail.com) for more information

# July/August Outreach Update

## Recap of recent events:

- You filled the **yellow barrel** for **The Food Bank** twice already to feed many local families in need this summer.
- As part of our **PB & J Sandwich Ministry**, you made 400 additional sandwiches to donate to Our Daily Bread, for a total of **4200** since September.
- You generously gave monetary contributions to **Meals on Wheels PLUS**.
- Folks **volunteered every Friday** at Our Daily Bread.
- Through budgeted funds **50+ backpacks were purchased** to supplement the school supply drive for the Beth-El Farmworker Ministry.

## July & August Outreach Opportunities:

- Our **DOES It (Done On Every Sunday)** project for **June, July, and August** will be **collecting non-perishable food for The Food Bank of Manatee**. The Food Bank is the leading, local source of nutrition for food-insecure babies, children, families, and the elderly in Manatee County. The need in our community is great, especially now that school is out for the summer and fewer children will be receiving food at school. Canned fruits, vegetables, soups, and meats as well as boxed and bagged pasta, rice, beans, and healthy cereal and breakfast bars are always in demand. Drop your items in the yellow barrels in the Narthex or bring them to the church office all summer long!
- In the summer, we also have **two BONUS DOES Its** to benefit children and education! In July, ;we are collecting **school supplies for the Beth-El Farmworker Ministry** in Wimauma. Beth-El is a Presbytery sponsored mission whose purpose is to support the farmworking community and their neighbors in need through opportunities for hunger relief, education, healthcare, and spiritual growth. Backpacks full of school supplies will be give to nearly 500 students in grades VPK through college this fall. Please see the list of needed items on page 8. Please drop your donations in the bins in the Narthex or bring them to the church office by **Sunday, July 23rd**. In **August**, we will be collecting school supplies for **Palma Sola Elementary School**. Look for a list of these items as August approaches. Thank you for helping students prepare for a great school year!
- Gather after worship on **Sunday, July 16th** to celebrate National Ice Cream Day with an **old-fashioned ice cream social!** Join together in Fellowship Hall where ice cream and a variety of toppings will be available for a suggested donation of \$5 to benefit The Food Bank of Manatee. Don't miss out on this opportunity for fellowship and fun and to raise money for hunger relief in our local community. To go containers will also be available. See you there!
- As part of our Older Adult Ministry, we are continuing our visits and outreach to the residents of **Brookdale Palma Sola** (right across the street by McDonald's). You are invited to join in on the fun on **Tuesday, August 29th at 2pm** for ice cream, conversation, and a rousing game of Simon Says. Please contact Gregg Pead for additional information.

# July/August Outreach Update Continued

## Ongoing Opportunities:

- **Servers for Our Daily Bread on Fridays** are always needed. Contact Dorothy Simes if you would like to volunteer.
- Also, please keep in mind our Blessing Box by the east parking lot. **The Blessing Box** serves as a **mini food pantry** for our local neighborhood, and you are welcome to add to it or take from it as needed.
- Contributions of **loose change, soft money, and checks for FELT (Feeding Empty Little Tummies)** are always welcome. To donate, use the envelopes in the pews or mail a check to the church office with "FELT" in the memo line.
- **The Holy Strollers** walking group will take a break for the rest of the hot summer but will start up again in the fall. Look for an update on dates and locations in the September Grapevine.
- Join your church family in Fellowship Hall after worship each week to make **PB & J sandwiches** to share with the **clients of Our Daily Bread**. Thank you to all who have been bringing in supplies, making sandwiches, and helping SPREAD the love of Christ to your neighbors in need!

## July & August Outreach Offering

Our Outreach Offering for July and August will go to The Food Bank of Manatee, the largest hunger relief organization in Manatee County. The Food Bank provides nutritional assistance and supportive services to individuals in need by distributing food through over 65 local non-profit partner agencies and food pantries. The Food Bank has provided over 30 million pounds of food since 1985 for local children, families, and seniors.

You may donate to The Food Bank:

- during the worship service, in your offering envelope,
- by mailing a check to the church office with "FOOD BANK" in the memo line, or
- Palma Sola members may also contribute through [online giving](#)





# BETH-EL FARMWORKER MINISTRY SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



**GOAL: 500 BACKPACKS**

## 2023 SCHOOL SUPPLIES WISH LIST

Notebooks & Paper	For Writing	Other
BINDERS 1 inch and 2 inch	EXPO MARKERS	PENCIL POUCHES or BOXES
(6TH GRADE THRU COLLEGE)	COLOR PENCILS 24CT	CALCULATORS REGULAR
1 SUBJECT NOTEBOOKS	CRAYONS 24CT	CALCULATORS SCIENTIFIC
3 SUBJECT NOTEBOOKS	MARKERS REGULAR: (4TH GRADE THRU COLLEGE)	GLUE LIQUID
5 SUBJECT NOTEBOOKS	MARKERS WASHABLE: (VPK THRU 3rd GRADE)	GLUE STICKS
COMPOSITION NOTEBOOKS	PENCILS #2	SCISSORS BLUNT:
COMPOSITION PRIMARY NOTEBOOKS: (VPK-2nd GRADE)	PENS BLACK/BLUE/RED	(VPK THRU 3RD GRADE)
LOOSE LEAF WIDE & COLLEGE RULED	REAMS OF COPY PAPER	SCISSORS REGULAR:
		(4TH GRADE THRU COLLEGE)

Please send us your items by Friday, July 21, 2023

**Other Ways to Support:**

- Pray for students in our community
- Go to our website and donate to our Back-to-School Fund
- Volunteer! Help us by stuffing back packs the week of July 25th and to distribute them the week of August 1st.

<https://beth-el.org>



## July Birthdays & Anniversaries

<b>JUL 3</b>	George Saile   Burt Tupper	<b>JUL 17</b>	Vicki Schooley
<b>JUL 5</b>	Lois Lee	<b>JUL 23</b>	Ron & Marilyn Mcleod
<b>JUL 7</b>	Mike & Tracy Starcher	<b>JUL 25</b>	Sandra Atherton
<b>JUL 11</b>	Gene & Myrna Adams	<b>JUL 26</b>	Reverend Edward Dunn
<b>JUL 14</b>	Marilyn Mcleod   Rodger Smith	<b>JUL 30</b>	Joan Sommerfeld
<b>JUL 15</b>	Paul Atherton   Millicent Riley		

## August Birthdays & Anniversaries

<b>AUG 2</b>	Gilbert Smith	<b>AUG 18</b>	Pam Insani
<b>AUG 5</b>	Beth Stone		John & Linda Progar
<b>AUG 6</b>	Liz Brackmann	<b>AUG 19</b>	Jean & Emmett Scott
<b>AUG 10</b>	Rich Wachunis	<b>AUG 22</b>	Peter & Carol MacFarlane
<b>AUG 11</b>	Don & Georgie Townsend	<b>AUG 24</b>	Roy & Jo Williams
<b>AUG 12</b>	Nancy Slocum   Jan McGowan	<b>AUG 25</b>	Suzanne Tyrrell
	Marilyn Gillette   Barbara Harris	<b>AUG 27</b>	Joan and Gene Sommerfeld
<b>AUG 14</b>	Rev. Peter MacFarlane	<b>AUG 29</b>	Nancy Regal
<b>AUG 15</b>	Nancy Shimandle	<b>AUG 31</b>	Ron McLeod
<b>AUG 17</b>	Gail Dickerson		

**3 Cents A Meal - July**  
**SUGGESTED DONATION \$8.19**  
**OR \$10**

**Collection will  
take place 7/30**



**Palma Sola & Westminster Presbyterian Churches**  
**- July/August Newsletter 2023 -**

6510 3rd Ave W.  
Bradenton, FL 34209  
941-792-3141  
[pspchurch.org](http://pspchurch.org)

# July

2023

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1

2

Worship  
10a | Communion

3

4

Independence  
Day

5

6

**MEN'S GROUP**  
8:30a

7

Our Daily Bread  
9:30a

8

9

Worship Service  
10a |

10

*Palma Sola  
Book Club / 12p*

11

**PRAYER  
GROUP | 11a**

12

13

*Finance / 3:30p*

14

Our Daily Bread  
9:30a

15

16

Worship Service  
10a | Ice Cream  
Social after  
worship

17

18

19

20

21

Our Daily Bread  
9:30a

22

23

Worship Service  
10a |

24

25

**PRAYER  
GROUP | 11a**

26

**Beach & Dinner  
Walk | 5:30p**

27

28

Our Daily Bread  
9:30a

29

30

Worship Service  
10a |

31

**Church Office SUMMER Hours**

**Monday - Thursday | 9am - 1pm**

View the online church Calendar for latest information about Sunday worship services, Bible study, outreach and other events. Livestreamed and recorded worship services may be viewed at

**3 Cents A Meal**

# August

2023

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

		1 <i>Outreach / 3p</i>	2	3 <b>MEN'S GROUP 8:30a</b> <i>Renewal 6:30p</i>	4 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	5
6 Worship 10a   Communion	7	8 <b>PRAYER GROUP   11a</b>	9	10	11 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	12 Faith Day W/ The Rays   4p
13 Worship Service 10a	14 <i>Palma Sola Book Club / 12p</i>	15	16	17 <i>Finance / 3:30p</i>	18 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	19
20 Worship Service 10a	21 <b>WPC SESSION 1p PSPC SESSION 6:30p</b>	22 <b>PRAYER GROUP   11a</b>	23	24	25 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	26
27 Worship Service 10a	28	29 Brookdale Palma Sola Ice Cream Social   2p	30	31		

**Church Office SUMMER Hours Monday - Thursday | 9am - 1pm**

View the online church Calendar for latest information about Sunday worship services, Bible study, outreach and other events. Livestreamed and recorded worship services may be viewed at Online Worship.