



# *The Grapevine*



## *Chasing Summer Memories*

**Reverend Edward Dunn**

This month's Grapevine is a double edition; July and August: months that are somewhat slower paced in the church. Things will be slower but they will not stop. Please note the events such as our Ice Cream Social on July 20 and the Beach picnic and stroll on July 29. Volunteer for a Friday shift at Our Daily Bread, or attend our Between Sunday's class on Wednesdays during the month of July. And as always, join us for worship each Sunday at 10a.m. followed by peanut butter and jelly sandwich making.

Please note that the Present Word class and Fellowship Hour activities will not be held during July. They will resume in August.



II. We are in the midst of a sermon series, Boating Season, in which we are reading and considering Biblical stories of boats, sailing, and discipleship. Our Between Sunday classes are reading and discussing these passages with a little more depth on Wednesdays at 10:30a.m. The idea for this series was sparked by the leadership's reading of the book, Sailboat Church by Joan Gray. I recommend it to you if you are interested or willing to become involved in our discerning about our church's future.

III. In late August my Doctor of Ministry classes through Duke University's Divinity School will begin with an Orientation and Immersion Week from August 21-29. I am excited by the opportunity to study and learn new things in the practice of ministry from the faculty and the cohort of ministers with whom I will be working.

The majority of my studies will be conducted on-line, with residential Immersion weeks in August, January, and May through 2027, followed by a writing term in which I will complete my dissertation/project, and Lord willing, graduation in 2028.

The benefit of a D. Min program is that the pastor continues to work in their ministry while attending school. It does add a bit more to the weekly schedule but should not affect the work needed to be done in the local congregation.

I am grateful to the Session and leaders of Westminster and United for their financial support, and to the members and friends who have and will offer prayers and words of encouragement as this work begins.

Have a blessed couple of months, although I hope to see you around!

Blessings,  
Edward



The Renewal Team is currently looking for volunteers to support the preparation and enhancement of our worship services and Bible classes. Additionally, assistance is needed for fellowship activities within our congregation. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact one of the following team members:

Gail Dickerson, Marilyn Gillette, or Jan Jarrell.



## A large collage of 24 photographs capturing various moments from a church event, likely a Christmas service and meal. The images show people participating in the service, playing instruments, eating at tables, and socializing. Key elements include a man in a black robe holding a red cloth, a man playing a tuba, a woman playing a piano, and a man playing a guitar. There are also many photos of people sitting at tables with food, including a large cake and various dishes. The church interior is decorated with red and white bunting and a large floral arrangement.



# *July & August Outreach Update*

I hope that you are all enjoying your summer. Whereas it is time to relax and enjoy a slower schedule, our community needs continue. In particular, let's not forget Feeding Empty Little Tummies, funding children who may not have school breakfast or lunch this summer. Families continue to be hungry, so please donate non-perishable food items to the barrels in the Narthex and monetary contributions to the Food Bank of Manatee County.

## **June Outreach Highlights:**

- The Dreyer Trust disbursement through May was \$18,692. The Dreyer Trust funds one time medical, rent, food, etc. emergency needs for those who submit requests through the Christian Care Alliance.
- You continue to donate food and supply funds through our budget for food items for the Blessing Box.
- Donations of food (DOES IT) and money (June Outreach Offering) have been made for the Food Bank of Manatee County.
- A donation to Mision Peniel of \$500, through our budget, was made to purchase backpacks for school children.
- Volunteers have stepped up to serve at Our Daily Bread on Fridays.
- A donation of \$240 to the West Manatee Fire and Rescue to provide 15 children with fire prevention books and information has been made.

## **July and August Outreach Opportunities:**

- Our DOES IT (done on every Sunday) project for July and August continues to be donating food items for the Food Bank. Please place the items in the barrels in the Narthex.
- "Make Your Own Sundae" is planned on July 20th after the church service.
- A beach picnic is scheduled for July 29th at 5:30PM.
- The next Brookdale Palma Sola Summer Tuesday event will be 8/12 from 2-3 PM with ice cream and a trivia game.

## **Bonus Does It In August:**

Please help us support our neighborhood school this new school year by donating supplies for the clinic at Palma Sola Elementary School. Drop needed items in the bins in the Narthex or bring them to the church office by August 31st .

# *July & August Outreach Opportunities*

## **School Supply List:**

- Kleenex tissues
- Flushable wipes
- Clorox wipes
- Adhesive bandages
- Individual packages of snacks (Goldfish, Teddy Grahams, etc.)
- Juice boxes or pouches
- Underwear in sizes 4-8 for boys/girls
- Stretch/pull-on shorts in sizes 4-8 for boys/girls
- Unisex t-shirts children's sizes S-XL

## **Ongoing Opportunities:**

- Servers for Our Daily Bread on Fridays are always needed. Contact Dorothy Simes if you would like to volunteer.
- We continue to collect non-perishable food items in the cart in the Narthex to donate to Our Daily Bread of Bradenton. They are always in need of shelf stable items to stock the Loaves & Fishes food pantry.
- 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.
- 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!

## **Summer Outreach Offerings**

Our Outreach Offering for May will go to The Food Bank.

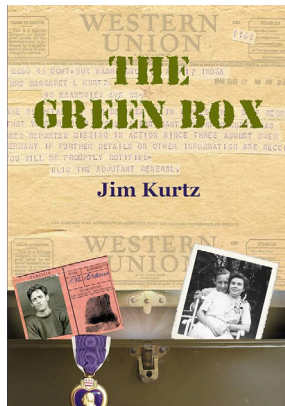
You may donate to The Food Bank:

- during the worship service, in your offering envelope,
- by mailing a check to the church office with "Food Bank" in the memo line, or
- or contribute through online giving

# June Session Highlights

- Inasmuch as the Fall 2024 Presbytery Meeting, scheduled to be held at United, was cancelled due to the storm, we have been asked to host the February 2026 Stated Meeting (Thursday, February 19th). Session has agreed to this request.
- Endorsed resumption of the 'Between the Sundays' Bible Study on Wednesday, June 25th beginning at 10:30 am.
- Agreed to suspend the regular Stated Session Meeting for July. A Called Meeting will be initiated should urgent business require.
- Concurred with Rev. Dunn's request that he be away during August 20-29 to begin his DMin study at Duke University, and during August 30-September 7 for vacation.
- Approved plans to hold an Ice Cream Social on July 20 after worship with a suggested donation of \$5 to benefit the Manatee Food Bank.
- Endorsed a donation from Outreach of \$240 to West Manatee Fire & Rescue to provide fire prevention books to children.
- Endorsed using church volunteers to staff the Church Office three hours a day from 9am to 12 noon on Tuesday thru Thursday (three days) each week.
- Approved attendance by Kramer at this year's Stewardship Kaleidoscope Program held by the Presbyterian Foundation.

## United Book Club



**JULY 14 | 1 - 2:30PM AUG 11 | 1 - 2:30PM**

Join in any second Monday at 1pm in the Media Center & Zoom for fun conversation.

### 2025 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 3 | Aug 7** - Fellowship and breakfast | Poppi's Place restaurant

**Jul 17 | Aug 21** - Fellowship & a discussion about Christian Living | Fellowship Hall

Please contact Ron Dickerson  
[rondickersonupc@gmail.com](mailto:rondickersonupc@gmail.com)

# Summer Fun at United



## **Ice Cream Social | Sunday, July 20th**

In summer, we all scream for ice cream! Gather after worship on Sunday, July 20th 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. Sugar free, dairy free, and to go containers available. Don't miss out on this opportunity for fellowship and fun and to raise money for hunger relief in our local community.

## **Summer Beach Picnic**

**Tuesday, July 29th at 5:30 pm**

You are invited to celebrate the mid-point of summer with our annual Beach Walk and Dinner at Manatee Public Beach on Tuesday, July 29th at 5:30 pm. Gather on the south side at the tables under the trees for chicken, watermelon, chips, and fun. After dinner we will walk the beach and watch the sunset. The event is free, just bring your own beverage and a 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 Andrea Harmon 941-518-1287 with questions.



# July & August Birthdays & Anniversaries

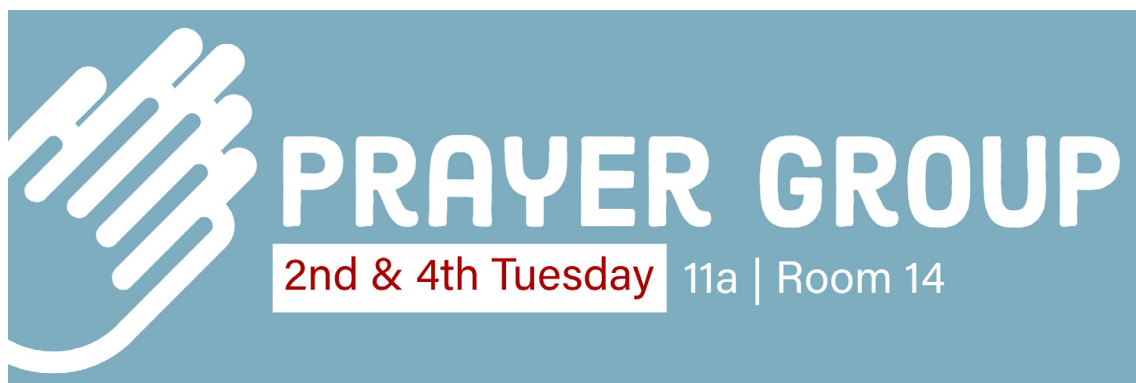
**JUL 11** Gene & Myrna Adams  
**JUL 14** Marilyn Mcleod  
Rodger Smith  
**JUL 15** Millicent Riley  
**JUL 17** Vicki Schooley  
**JUL 23** Ron & Marilyn Mcleod

**AUG 2** Gilbert Smith  
**AUG 5** Beth Stone  
**AUG 6** Liz Brackmann  
**AUG 8** Tammy Barr  
**AUG 10** Rich Wachunis  
**AUG 11** Don & Georgie Townsend  
**AUG 12** Nancy Slocum, Jan McGowan,  
Marilyn Gillette, Barbara Harris  
**AUG 17** Gail Dickerson  
**AUG 18** John & Linda Progar  
**AUG 19** Jean & Emmett Scott  
**AUG 24** Roy & Jo Williams  
**AUG 25** Suzanne Tyrrell  
**AUG 31** Ron McLeod

**A Special Happy Birthday to:**



**JUL 26** Reverend Edward Dunn



**- United Presbyterian Church | July & August 2025 Newsletter -**

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[www.upchurchbradenton.org](http://www.upchurchbradenton.org)



# July

## 2025

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

		1	2	3 <b>MEN'S GROUP 8:30a   Poppi's</b>	4 <b>INDEPENDENCE DAY</b> Our Daily Bread 9:30a	5
6 Worship Service w/ Communion 10a   Fellowship	7	8 <b>PRAYER GROUP   11A</b>	9	10	11 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	12
13 Worship Service 10a   Fellowship	14 <i>Book Club / 1p</i>	15	16	17 <b>MEN'S GROUP 8:30a</b>	18 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	19
20 Worship Service 10a   Fellowship Ice Cream Social	21	22 <b>PRAYER GROUP   11A</b>	23	24	25 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	26
27 Worship Service 10a   Fellowship	28	29 <b>Beach Picnic 5:30P</b>	30	31		

**Church Office Hours Monday - Thursday | 9am - 4pm**

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.

# August

## 2025

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

					1 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	2
3 Present Word 8:45a Worship Service w/ Communion 10a   Fellowship	4	5 <i>Outreach / 3p</i>	6	7 <b>MEN'S GROUP 8:30a   Poppi's</b>  <i>Renewal - 6p</i>	8 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	9
10 Present Word 8:45a Worship Service 10a   Fellowship	11 <i>Book Club / 1p</i>	12 <b>PRAYER GROUP   11a</b> <b>Ice Cream &amp; Trivia @ Brookdale   2p</b>	13	14 <b>FINANCE - 3:30P</b>	15 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	16
17 Present Word 8:45a Worship Service 10a   Fellowship	18 <b>UPC SESSION   1p</b>	19	20	21 <b>MEN'S GROUP 8:30a</b>	22 Our Daily Bread 9:30a  <b>GRAPEVINE INPUTS DEADLINE</b>	23
24 Present Word 8:45a Worship Service 10a   Fellowship	25	26 <b>PRAYER GROUP   11a</b>	27	28	29 Our Daily Bread 9:30a	30
31 Present Word 8:45a Worship Service 10a   Fellowship <b>3 CENTS A MEAL</b>	<b>Church Office Hours Monday - Thursday   9am - 4pm</b> View the online church <a href="#">Calendar</a> for latest information about Sunday worship services, Bible study, outreach and other events. Livestreamed and recorded worship services may be viewed at <a href="#">Online Worship</a> .					