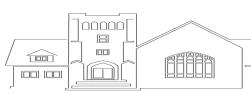
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWTON, IOWA

641-792-2790

"The Mission of First Presbyterian Church of Newton, Iowa is to share the love of God and grow the body of Christ through joyful worship and fellowship, devoted prayer and study, and humble service in our community and world."





JUNE 2017

Meghan's Musings

You Matter

A few months back, a friend of mine on Facebook changed her profile picture to a photo of a piece of art she had created that said, "You Matter." From time to time she would post a picture of a new piece of art that also said "You Matter." One day I was surprised to find in my inbox a brief but lovely personal message from her telling me that I matter. And it wasn't a generic message that she copied and pasted to each of her friends (though I do suspect she sent a message to all of her friends). This message said specifically what she appreciates about me, what makes me matter to her. I was particularly moved by the gesture considering this woman is someone I've only met a couple times. We are not particularly close and we don't know each other very well and yet she took the time and made the effort to tell me that I matter.

And I wanted to pass that message on so I asked our recent confirmand and artist Allie Norvell to design some cards that we could pass out for people to have and color for the reminder that You Matter. And then I selected Youth Sunday as the time to present the cards to the congregation as it fit in so nicely with Matt Illingworth's message to the Younger Church about how people with disabilities aren't scary, mean, or stupid but are people just like everyone else. People with disabilities matter.

I don't think we can overstate it enough. We say it in different ways: every Sunday we tell the children "You are God's beloved Child. With you, God is well pleased." On graduation Sunday, using Paul's words recorded in Acts stressed that we are all "God's Offspring." There are many different ways to tell one another "You Matter" and it's important that we do.

I'm going to leave the "You Matter" cards and markers out on a table during Fellowship time before and after worship. I invite you all to pick one up. Color here at the church or take it home and color it there. Or maybe you just don't want to color it and that's fine, too. But whatever you do, and in all things remember this: You Matter. And because you matter, look for ways that you can share that Good News with others you come across—whether in your neighborhood or in your family, at work or in the church or strangers in the grocery store—look for ways to spread the Good News: You Matter.

(See an example of the "You Matter" cards and an update on Curt on page 8)



Beginning Sunday, June 4, we will return to our summer hours. We will have Fellowship at 9:30 am and worship at 10:00 am. There will also be Fellowship after worship. Please be sure to mark your calendars.

And remember, summer is not a time to take a vacation from church.©



- Kelly Koenen, Jay, Skye and Shae, as Kelly continues healing from her recent cancer surgery and starts chemo treatments on June 1.
- ✤ Gladys Sparks, as she is recovering from a recent fall.
- Shirley Mielke, who is recovering from a recent fall that resulted in a broken bone in her leg.
- Clarice Sigurdson and her son, Mark, who continues to recover from a fall he experienced. At the writing of the edition, Clarice reports that he should be moved to a nursing home very soon for further recuperation.
- Parents and care givers, as they have their students home for the summer.
- Teachers and administrators, as they experience time to recuperate and refresh their bodies and minds.
- People around the world who have lost loved ones in various acts of terrorism and/or natural disasters.
- ✤ Our military personnel, who are defending our country on home or foreign shores.



Dear Church Family -

Thank you so much for all the love, prayers, and support you have provided. The prayer shawl has given me great comfort. We are all doing as well as can be expected and will continue to let God lead us on this journey.

With much love -Jay & Kelly Koenen, Skye & Shae

Howdy y'all! I'm trying hard to fit in here in Georgia! It's been great so far although a bit overwhelming at times. Doug and I thought it might be nice to put a note in the Messenger so that people would have our new contact information. We also want to thank the congregation for the wonderful farewell reception, the well wishes, hugs, and food that have been given to us. It is all very much appreciated. Our new mailing address is 100 Longwood Rd., St. Marys, Georgia 31558. Our new email address is <u>acdc4@comcast.net</u>.

Ann Cutts

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My Trip to El Salvador

Warren Erickson

Last summer, 2016, the congregation of First Presbyterian Church was given a letter from the Directiva in Muñoces ending the relationship that we had enjoyed for nearly 10 years. It was clear from their short message that they had been told that we had not wanted to follow their rules, which was not true. We had questioned the policies of the Compañeros committee of Presbytery and the Pastoral Team in Berlin and had tried to resolve those issues but we never questioned the right of Muñoces to make their own decisions. The "middle men" decided to end the relationship against our wishes and without our knowledge.

It was difficult to end the relationship on that note of untruth and with the community thinking that we had disrespected them. A letter was composed (and translated) to the community to share this information with them and express our respect for them and appreciation for their friendship. We also wanted to let them know that, although we hadn't desired to end the relationship, we respected their right to do so.

The next question was how to deliver it? There is no postal service and we could no longer trust the Pastoral Team to deal with us fairly and honestly. I volunteered to take it to the community in person. This involved traveling to El Salvador, taking a bus to Berlin, and making my way to Muñoces in the back of the truck that Linda and I used to take each day to teach at the village school.

I didn't know how I would be received. Would they be angry with us? Would they shun me? How would I deliver the letter to each of the nearly 40 houses?

April 16, Easter Sunday afternoon I took a city bus to Terminal Oriente to catch the bus to Berlin and got my room at Casa Mia.

I walked to the market and saw Heidi Granados at her Pupusaria and her daughter Mily (familiar faces) and asked if Mily could translate for me. She couldn't because she was working in the mayor's office, but she would see if a friend of hers could. I wanted a translator to help with the nuanced language that would be necessary to navigate the delicate feelings of this emotional "break up."

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Music for Summer Worship

Nearly every Sunday I hear from someone how much they appreciate the church choir -- which is certainly gratifying, since I'm the director! The choir is definitely a wonderful group of people who love to sing in worship of God. But the choir is not the beginning and end of music in the church, or at least it shouldn't be! Especially when the choir is off during summer, we need others with musical gifts to step up and offer those gifts in worship. In fact, it can be a time to stretch ourselves and find different styles and forms of music to enhance our worship.

I will be contacting people in the coming weeks to ask them to provide music sometime during the summer. But don't wait to be contacted! Call or email me. Even if you only have a vague idea of what you'd like to do, we can offer help to shape that, to provide an accompanist, etc.

Larry Anderson (641-521-1337, wilsand95@yahoo.com)



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Church Life

Tara Zehr, Chair

Date & Time	Event
July 16, 2017, 10:00 am	Worship at Woodland, jointly with Worship and Music committee
August 27, 2017, 10:00 am	Rally Day Ecumenical Worship Service
September 17, 2017, 4:00 pm from church	Hayride and Weenie Roast at the Ritter Camp
October 15, 2017, 4:00 pm	Progressive Dinner
November 19, 2017, 11:30 am	Thanksgiving Feast and Communion, jointly with Worship and Music Committee
December 17, 2017, 4:00 pm	Christmas Caroling followed by supper

On May 21st, 60 people celebrated the graduation of Emily Miller, Jordan Norvell, Megan Ritter and Josh Ventling. The Christian Nurture Committee decorated the tables beautifully with red and black, black, white and silver – a new combination of CMB and Newton colors. Eggs, fruits, breads, muffins, rolls and drinks were also provided by the Church Life Committee. It was a wonderful breakfast celebrating a group of successful graduates.

We will take the month of June off from Church Life events, but come see us on Sunday, July 16th for Worship at Woodland.

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April 17, Monday morning. I was ready to go but it was still dark outside so I cooled it until I could see some color in the sky.

I walked to the pickup stop ("La Tortuga" - the turtle- was the name we gave the pickup) and after visiting with some acquaintances I was told the teachers were still on Easter vacation and wouldn't be going out until tomorrow. What to do?

I walked to the police department on the other side of the park and asked if they knew of anyone who might be interested in taking me out to Muñoces. They thought I wanted a police escort. I told them I just needed transportation. They made several calls but weren't able to locate anyone.

I really wanted to get this task completed. I walked down to Heidi's pupuseria but she knew of no one. I was out of luck for today. I had to wait until Tuesday.

I was walking back to Casa Mia when I heard someone call my name. Then I saw the familiar face of one of our former English students, Lidia, the daughter of Juan Carlos. Then I spotted Juan and his wife and other members of his family. It was very comforting to see people from the community that I knew, especially since they seemed happy to see me.

Moments later I heard my name called again and this time I recognized the voice. It was Manual Chavez, one of the first members of the community we met on our first visit. We all talked and I told them my reason for coming. Since I had copies of the letter with me I gave each a copy. They told me that they would assemble the Directiva to meet with me tomorrow. It would be good to have a meeting with the Directiva and since Juan and his family and Manual seemed happy to see me maybe it would go well on Tuesday. (This report will be concluded in next month's Messenger).

MEMBERSHIP SUNDAYS @ 4:



There will be a **Sundays @4 concert on Sunday, June 11**. Newton dentist, Katie Lee, who holds a Masters' Degree in piano performance, and several "First Presbyterian All-Stars" will present the concert.

MOMENT Katie Lee grew up in a musical household in Cedar Falls, daughter of a piano teacher and a mathematician. She learned to play the piano at an early age and studied primarily with Ted Reuter in Waverly before leaving lowa for college. Piano continued to inspire her at Northwestern University, where she crisscrossed campus to earn dual degrees in piano studies and biology. Katie eventually went on to dental school at the University of Iowa, and she now enjoys living in Newton and working with Dana Hashman and the rest of the team at Associated Dentists. Although she has traded hours of piano practice for hours of dental practice, she still learns new music in her spare time and relishes the occasional performance/collaboration. Thank you for the opportunity to share a moment of music!

COMING ACTIVITIES

Membership Committee will sponsor a "**PEW**" (**Pray, Eat, Work**) event on Thursday, June 8 at 5:15 pm, starting with work cleaning interiors of windows and light fixtures, followed by dinner supplied by committee members and ending with a brief devotion.

Gary Parsons is planning to coordinate a **church group to attend a softball game** in which Megan Ritter is a member athlete. Information about this outing is below. A church outing to the final boy's soccer game was held on May 19. Jordan Norvell and Josh Ventling are members of the team. See the picture and information below of the mighty three who attended

First Presbyterian Church will also participate in the City of Newton's **4**th **of July parade**. The theme for this year's parade is "American Innovation: Famous Firsts", and the committee has chosen to highlight Presbyterian astronauts Neil Armstrong and Sally Ride in our church float. We welcome and will encourage any and all church members to participate in this fun event. Details will be announced closer to the holiday.

First Presbyterians participating in events will soon have the opportunity to wear **church T-Shirts**, which we hope will raise our visibility in the community. Orders for T-shirts, at a cost of under \$10 each, will be taken during the next several weeks; the shirts will be red with white logo and identifying text.



Few but Mighty

On the cold, rainy Friday night of May 19, Gary and Kay Parsons and Dave Stolper braved the weather to help cheer on the boy's soccer team to a win against Nevada. In addition to these 3 hardy souls, the regulars of Roger and Harriet Harmelink, Chris, Jen and Allie Norvell (when the girls aren't playing), Melissa and Kasey Sommars, Mickey Van Baale, Kathy and Jenn Ventling and Tom Weeks were also there. This was the last home game before going into sub-state competition. Thank you church family for supporting Jordan Norvell and Josh Ventling and the rest of the team.

Softball Outing June 2, 2017

The Membership Committee is organizing a trip to see Megan Ritter and the CMB softball team play Saydel High School on Friday night June 2. Game time is at 7:00 p.m. in Collins. The field is visible from the highway south of town. You may travel there on your own or meet in the church parking lot to carpool. We will meet a few minutes before 6:00 and try to depart by 6:10. It might be best to let Gary Parsons know if you are planning to go in case we have to cancel for some reason. Hope you can join us!

Mission Committee

Marilyn McCallister, Chair

The purpose of the Mission Committee is to recommend, approve, manage, and terminate mission projects. The committee communicates about opportunities for mission involvement and promotes congregational participation.

One Great Hour of Sharing - You did it!

We promised that we'd let you know how much money was collected after all the One Great Hour of Sharing donations were in. Well.... (drumroll please!) as of May 10 the total donations stand at \$1,050! That is well above the previous high mark in 2014 of \$795.02! You have proved once again that you are willing to share what you have with others less fortunate. Well done, thou good and faithful servants!

Meals on Wheels serving opportunity! Check with Linda Curtis-Stolper for an open Saturday or Sunday in June to deliver the much needed meals.

Annual Ice Cream Social is on Tuesday, June 6, 4:30 – 7 p.m. in fellowship hall. A great event – don't miss out! If you are interested in helping, contact Jane Repp or Linda Anderson. See an additional article on page 7.

Repair of the Friendship House ramp is soon to begin. Watch for details on how you can get involved!

Be sure to read Warren Erickson's article of his recent trip to El Salvador and Muñoces on page 3.

Mariners in Mission leaders, John & Barb Taylor, have returned from their Arkansas work week at Ferncliff camp where they worked on Church World Service kits and projects involving construction, electricity and painting. The Mission Committee approved a donation of \$150 to put together 20 hygiene kits for the Taylors to deliver. Mickey Van Baale performed the major effort of collecting and purchasing items for the kits as well as assembling them. The Taylors reported that it was a very successful week.

The Mission Committee approved a donation of \$300 to the Salvation Army Compassion Fund. When people in need show up at the church door, they are referred to the Salvation Army and the compassion fund helps to provide resources in those emergency situations.

Fashion Show/Luncheon – The planning committee has started looking at dates for a late summer/early fall fun fashion show and luncheon fundraiser. More details will be coming as final decisions are made.

The Mission Committee responded positively to a potential opportunity to offer some funding for an upcoming project of Friends of Hope (our own Linda Curtis-Stolper is a member). The project is an attempt to get people in need of dental work to the Iowa Mission of Mercy dental clinic in the fall. Details and costs are unknown at this time.

The April Days for Girls workshop was well attended and successful in creating the pieces needed for the sustainable feminine hygiene kits. The new pattern cutting machine worked wonderfully. Since the first workshops which began in September 2016, a total of 53 kits have been assembled. Of those, 27 kits have been sent to Guatemala, Central America and 15 kits to Uganda, Africa. The next scheduled workshops (9 a.m. – 2 p.m.) is Thursday, June 22 in fellowship hall.

A new offering for members is SHARE food distribution. While our church isn't officially sponsoring this, we want to let members know this is available. Linda Anderson is the liaison person from our church. See her article and the menu for June on page 9.

Ice Cream Social to benefit Ramp Ministry

Linda Anderson, Member of Mission Committee

Recently, a proposal was made to Mission Committee to begin a Ramp Ministry in partnership with Kid Assist of Jasper County. Linda Anderson, Director of Kid Assist and a member of Mission Committee has seen a need for ramps to be built for people with disabilities. Many of these people in need have power scooters sitting in their homes but have no easy way to get in and out of their homes with them, as it is difficult to obtain funding to have a ramp built.

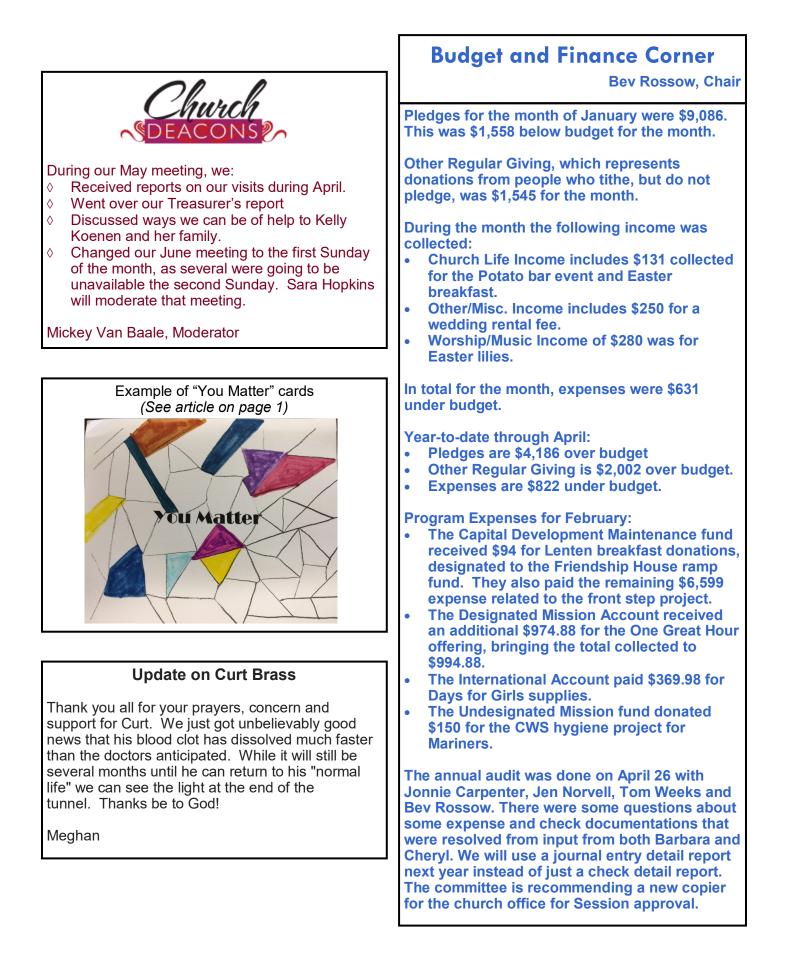
Normally, proceeds from the Ice Cream Social have benefitted Work Week. Since Work Week is on hold, Mission Committee approved the proceeds from the Ice Cream Social this year will go to the ramp building project.



ICE CREAM SOCIAL Tuesday, June 6, 2017 4:30 to 7:00 pm First Presbyterian Church 220 N. 2nd Avenue East – Newton Freewill offering

Menu:

Hot shredded chicken or barbequed pork sandwich Potato Salad Cole Slaw Baked Beans Assorted Homemade Pies and Cakes Homemade ice cream Fund raiser for new ramp building ministry in partnership with Kid Assist of Jasper County Bring your friends and family!! SEE YOU JUNE 6, 2017



Welcome to SHARE lowa

It has now been three months since the Newton Ministerial Association decided to bring SHARE lowa back to Newton. SHARE (Self Help and Resource Exchange) is a non-profit, community-based, food co-op program. It is a network of nonprofit organizations dedicated to:

Promoting volunteer service in our communities Providing affordable, quality food packages on a monthly basis Building partnerships with other community organizations

Mission Statement

SHARE lowa, Inc. brings people together to build and strengthen community through volunteer service by providing access to good nutritious food at affordable prices. We are committed to supporting local neighborhood host sites where all may participate, serve and lead with dignity.

Food orders must be in to Linda Anderson by Wed. June 9th for Saturday distribution on June 24 from 7:30-8:30 at First United Methodist Church. Make checks payable to First Christian Church. Contact Linda with questions at 641-521-1153

(A) Best Value Package \$28.00

("Save up to 50% on your groceries")
12 oz Beef Rope Sausage
1 lb Ground Beef
2/12 oz Boneless Chicken Breasts w/Wing
1.5 lb Hormel "Always Tender" Pork Roast
16 oz Frozen Vegetable Baby Blend
12 oz Shells & Cheese
Russet Potatoes, Lettuce, Celery,
Zucchini, Apples, Cantaloupe and Oranges

(B) Grocery Package \$14.50

Russet Potatoes, Lettuce, Celery, Zucchini, Apples, Cantaloupe and Oranges 12 oz Shells & Cheese

(C) Meat Only Package \$14.50

12 oz Beef Rope Sausage 1 lb Ground Beef 2/12 oz Boneless Chicken Breasts w/Wing 1.5 lb Hormel "Always Tender" Pork Roast

(D) Grill Box \$28.00

("Plan for the 4th of July") 2 – 8 oz Sirloin Steaks 2 – 14 oz Beef Hot Dogs 2 lb IQF All Natural Chicken Breast 1 lb Fully Cooked Pulled Pork 5 – 6 oz Black Angus Hamburgers

(E) Steak Box \$22.00

8 – 6 oz Sirloin Strip Steaks, Tenderized

(F) Pork Chop Box \$22.00

(*"Individually wrapped"*) 15 - 6 oz Boneless Pork Chops 16 oz Frozen Vegetable Baby Blend

(G) Pantry Box \$25.00

("Stock up the cupboard") Peanut Butter 16 oz Pear Slices 15 oz Pork & Beans 15 oz Ravioli 15 oz Apple Sauce Cups 4/4 oz Mashed Potatoes 6 oz Mandarin Oranges 11 oz Scalloped Potatoes 4.4 oz Chicken Breast 12.5 oz Banana Muffin Mix 10 oz Instant Oatmeal 5/1.23 oz Sirloin Burger Soup 19 oz Strawberry Spread 19 oz Long Grain & Wild Rice 6 oz Shells & Cheese 12 oz Green Beans 15 oz 1% Shelf Stable Milk 4/8 oz Mixed Fruit 15 oz Tuna 5 oz Corn 15 oz

Choice Items: Must purchase one of the packages above to be able to purchase one or more of the below

(H) Shredded Pork 5 lb in BBQ Sauce Fully Cooked \$15.00

(I) Porky's Brats

1 lb pkg of each (3 lb total) Regular, Cheesy & Beer **\$11.00** (J) Jumbo Burgers 5.44 lb Total 12/7.25 oz. Beef Patties \$18.00 (I) Mini Turkey Corndogs 5 lb Bag \$11.50 June 2017 BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:30 a Fellowship 10:00 a Worship 11:00 a Fellowship				1 6:30a Early Men's Group 9a Men's Group 3p Chair Yoga 7p Christian Nurture	2 John Miller Suzanne Funk Marilyn McCallister 7p CMB Softball game at Saydel Presbytery Mtg	3 8:30a Make Ice Cream for Social In Ames
<i>4</i> 9a Deacons	5 4:45p Personnel 5:30p Building & Grounds	6 4:30 –7p Ice Cream Social	7 Jeannette Shannon	<i>8</i> 3p Chair Yoga 5:15p PEW	9 Tom Cheney	10 John Erickson
11 4p Sundays @ 4 Concert	12	13 11a Gentle Yoga 3:30p Mission	14 VBS 5:15p Membership 6p Budget & Finance	15 Matt Illingworth 6:30a Early Men's Group 9a Men's Group 3p Chair Yoga	16	17
18 VBS Worship at UP Church - time To Be Announced	19 4:45p Personnel	20 11a Gentle Yoga 6:30p Session	21 Terry Rickers Val McKee Dave Stolper Cheryl Ritter	22 Jordan Norvell Vince VerSteegt 9a-2p Day for Girls 3p Chair Yoga	23 Kelly Koenen Articles due for the Messenger	24
25	26	27 Shirley Mielke 11a Gentle Yoga	28	29 Don Fisher Lauren Ferguson 3p Chair Yoga	30	



June	4	11	18	25	July 2
Worship Leader Mickey Van Baale	Karen Quinn	Linda Curtis- Stolper	Bev Rossow	Gary Parsons	Tom Mott
Host Elder/Deacon Church Life	Tom Mott	Bev Rossow	Shirley Stevens	Julie Fisher	Kay Parsons
Greeters Julie Brodersen	Janet Shields Kert or Kimberly Schnell	Randy & Carol Camp	Gary & Kay Parsons	Kevin & Toni Peska	Terry Rickers Bev Rossow
Ushers Mickey Van Baale	Dana Hashman Mickey Van Baale	Les & Kay Gause	Dave Stolper Linda Curtis- Stolper	Shirley Stevens Sandy Cheney	Mary Jane Tripp Suzy Funk
Audio <i>Mickey Van Baale</i>	Dan Ritter	Shirley Stevens	Les Gause	Les Gause	Shirley Stevens
Counters Budget & Finance	Jonnie Carpenter Sandy Cheney	Jen Norvell Janet Shields	Terry Rickers Chris or Peggy Lickiss	Mickey Van Baale Bev Rossow	Dan Ritter Don Black
Bread Ministry Baker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Jane Repp	Val McKee	Dixie Zegers	Sharon Black	Diane Moles
Bread Ministry Taker Barb Taylor	Carol Russell	Toni Peska	Dana Hashman	Nancy Mott	Barb Gallaher
Communion Set up Worship & Music	Jen Norvell Linda Kirchhoff				Val McKee Tom Mott

First Presbyterian Church PO Box 7 220 N 2nd Ave E Newton, Iowa 50208

641-792-2790

Return Service Requested

Lectionary —

June, 2017

June 4 - Day of Pentecost Ps. 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Cor. 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

June 11 - Trinity Sunday Gen. 1:1-2:4a; *Ps. 8*; 2 Cor. 13: 11-13; Matt. 28:16-20

June 18 - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost Gen. 18:1-15 (21:1-7); *Ps. 116:1-2, 12-19;* Rom.5:1-8; Matt. 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

June 25 - 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Gen. 21:8-21; *Ps. 86: 1-10, 16-17;* Rom. 6:1b-11; Matt.10:24-39

July, 2017

July 2 - 4th Sunday after Pentecost Gen. 22:1-14; *Ps. 13*; Rom. 6:12-23; Matt. 10:40-42

July 9 - 5th Sunday after Pentecost Gen. 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; *Ps. 45:10-17 or Song of Sol. 2:8-13;* Rom 7:15-25a; Matt. 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16 - 6th Sunday after Pentecost Gen. 25:19-34; *Ps. 119:105-112;* Rom. 8:1-11; Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23 - 7th Sunday after Pentecost Gen. 28:10-19a; *Ps. 139:1-12, 23-24;* Rom. 8:12-25; Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30 - 8th Sunday after Pentecost Gen. 29:15-28; *Ps. 105:1-11, 45b or Ps. 128*; Rom. 8:26-39; Matt. 13:31-33, 44-52