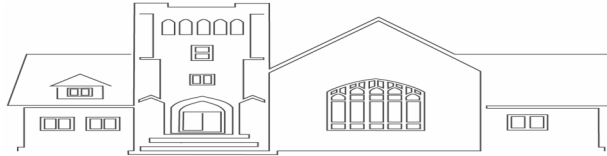


**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWTON, IOWA
641-792-2790**

"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."

THE MESSENGER



**July and August
2019**

Meghan's Musings The Ration Challenge

As some of you are aware, a few weeks ago I participated in the "Ration Challenge." The Ration Challenge supports Church World Service (CWS)—these are the same people who do Crop Walk. The idea is for one week, eat the same rations as a Syrian refugee living in camps in Jordan. Just a small amount of rice, lentils, chickpeas, beans, and fish and oil. (Actually, I substituted a vegan "toona" protein alternative for the sardines.) That's it - no red meat, no coffee, and no alcohol. That "no coffee" part was by far the hardest for me. I had to start weaning myself off coffee the week before and every day was harder than the day before. It was a LOOONG two weeks! (Pictures of my rations for the week are shown on page 2.)

According to the UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) "We are now witnessing the highest levels of displacement on record. An unprecedented 70.8 million people around the world have been forced from home. Among them are nearly 25.9 million refugees, over half of whom are under the age of 18.

There are also millions of stateless people who have been denied a nationality and access to basic rights such as education, healthcare, employment and freedom of movement... 1 person is forcibly displaced every two seconds as a result of conflict or persecution..."

The organizers of the Ration Challenge expected 6000 to participate in the US and were prepared for 10,000. Over 16,000 signed up to spend a week eating only white rice, a little bit of flour, lentils, vegetable oil, chickpeas, kidney beans and a can of sardines (or the equivalent of vegetarian protein substitute. By hitting certain fundraising goals you can add: one spice, unlimited salt, ONE six ounce vegetable, 4 oz of protein, a 12 oz beverage of choice and the special bonus item: your choice of a one time treat worth up to \$3 (the idea of the treat is that it should be one item, such as a candy bar, not a bag of cookies).

There was an online community of people doing the challenge and I was humbled by many of those participating in the challenge, many of whom were living on the margins themselves. Wendi, posted that even though she is homeless, she feels empathy for refugees who are in even worse circumstances than she.

So what was the challenge like? The heavy diet of white rice wreaked havoc on my stomach. I felt the pain of hunger that I have never felt before (though I have fasted before and done juice cleanses, something about the white rice—it fills you up only to make you even more hungry a bit later). Many participants had to drop out for their health. Diabetics were especially susceptible raising the question: what do diabetic refugees do? And the unfortunately answer: most likely they die. Parents whose children were not participating in the challenge but wanted to try mom or dad's food were struck by the thought of refugee parents sacrificing their meager rations for their children to have more.

Continued on page 2

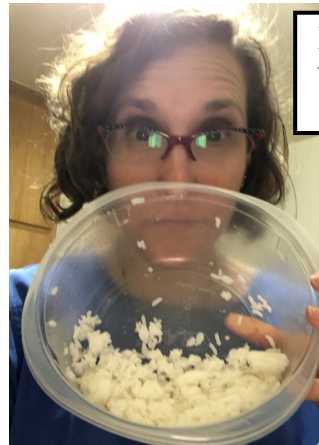
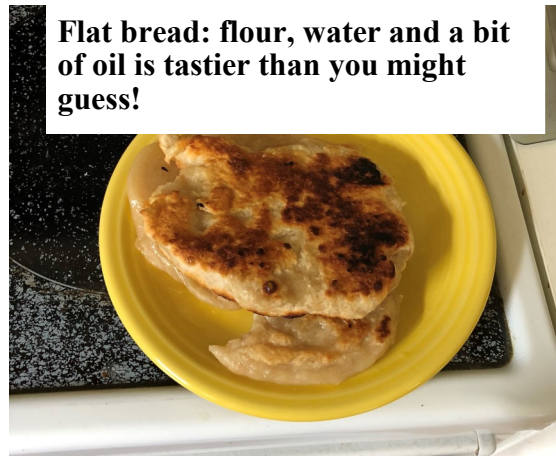
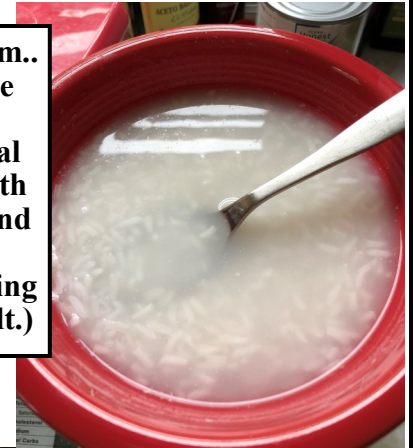
Continued from page 1

I only ate the food for a week and for over a week after finishing my digestive system still hadn't fully recovered. And others online reported the same. If one week can have such an impact, imagine what the long term ramifications are. And of course, this just addresses the physical symptoms from eating the food. The life-long emotional and psychological impact of the experiences that lead one to become a refugee and the experience of being a refugee are a whole other, even bigger problem.

The good news is, in the US the Ration Challenge raised \$359,000 and worldwide \$3.3 million was raised to alleviate the suffering of refugees. Donations are still being accepted so let me know if you'd like to contribute or give online at: <https://my.rationchallengeusa.org/meghandavis>



Mmmm.. Congee (like oatmeal but with rice. and no flavoring but salt.)



More white rice!

"Crepes" with my vegan yogurt earned reward.



- *Dave Moles and the entire Moles family. Dave had surgery to biopsy a brain tumor on Friday, July 12. He went home on Monday, July 15, as they await the test results and what next steps will be taken.
- *Wilma Manning, who fell in her apartment, breaking 2 ribs. After a short stay at MercyOne Newton (Skiff), she is back at Newton Village recuperating.
- *BJ Irwin and her family. See the complete information about BJ's injury on page 8.
- *Administrators, teachers and students as they are making preparations for the return to school. School will be back in session when our next edition comes out.
- *People around our country that are suffering from the results of natural disasters.
- *The people of the South Sudan.
- *Those who protect and/or defend our freedom - police, fire department personnel and military personnel.



Danielle Hamilton passed away Thursday afternoon, June 6, 2019, at MercyOne Main, in Des Moines.

A time of remembrance and celebration of life was held Friday, June 14, 2019, at the First Presbyterian Church in Newton. Burial will be at Okoboji, IA, at a later date.

Danielle Dee Davis Hamilton, 79, ("Danne") was born August 29, 1939, in Omaha, Nebraska, to Marvin Ray Davis and Gladys Lucille Radcliffe Davis. An only child, she lived with her parents in several places, including Omaha and Kansas City, and attended schools in Des Moines, where she graduated from Roosevelt High School, class of 1957. Danne attended the University of Iowa, where she met the love of her life, (Carl) Porter Hamilton, from Hamburg, Iowa. She and Porter were married April 23, 1960 and just celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary. She was always proud of her role in helping Porter through dental school by working in glaucoma research at the University of Iowa. After graduation from dental school, she and Porter, with their 2-year-old daughter Kristin and soon-to-be-born twins Randy and Rebecca, reported for active duty with the U.S. Navy in Portsmouth, Va. Danne enjoyed being a Navy wife, and they made many long-time friends. After two years of active duty, they moved back to Newton, Iowa, where Porter has practiced dentistry for 52 years.

Danne enjoyed devoting time to many organizations including TTT, Beta Sigma Pi, Gamma Phi Beta, Questers, Theta Chi, multiple bridge clubs, DMACC Friends of the French Chefs, Terrace Hill Foundation, and Newton YMCA Board, serving as head of the fundraising volunteers in 1976. She loved collecting and teaching antiques and especially loved her collection of vintage holiday decorations. She was a born hostess and knew how to throw a memorable party. Witty and occasionally irreverent, all who knew Danne will miss the sparkle in her smile and the twinkle in her eye.

Danne will be missed by her husband Porter, daughter Kristin Hamilton Johnson (Eric), Clive, Iowa; son Randall Hamilton (Bruce Hughes), Des Moines, Iowa; daughter Rebecca Hamilton Furlong (Michael), Leawood, Kansas; grandsons Scott Hamilton Johnson, Washington, D.C.; Matthew Carl Johnson, Iowa City, Iowa; Todd Davis Johnson, Iowa City, Iowa; Porter Dugan Furlong, Leawood, Kansas; granddaughters Caitrin Rae Furlong, Leawood, Kansas; and Sidney Danielle Furlong, Leawood, Kansas; and many for whom she was their "other mother." She was preceded in death by her parents.



Dorothy Jeanne Bridenstine died on June 18, 2019, in Newton. A memorial service will be at 11:00 am on Saturday July 27, 2019 at our church. Dorothy Jeanne Watson Bridenstine, 95, was born November 24, 1923, at St. Luke's Hospital in Davenport, the daughter of Myron and Alice (Kuehl) Watson. She spent her childhood years in various cities throughout the country before returning to Davenport.

She married Eugene Bridenstine on November 10, 1945 in Davenport. Jeanne and Gene moved to Newton in 1950 after Gene's graduation from Iowa State University.

Jeanne stayed at home raising five children until she became active in the Democratic Party in Jasper County. She was one of the earliest members of the Iowa Women's Political Caucus and a 65-year member of the Newton League of Women Voters. In 1972, she was elected chairwoman of the Jasper County Democratic Central Committee and retained that position until 1974 when she was elected to a four-year term on the Jasper County Board of Supervisors.

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

She served two more terms from 1982 to 1990. She was elected chairwoman during her 1982 term. The Jasper County Courthouse underwent a major renovation under her leadership. In 1976 she was elected to the Iowa State Democratic Central Committee and served a four-year term. In January 1978 Jeanne and Gene were invited to the White House with other Democrats from Iowa to meet President Jimmy Carter.

Jeanne was a member of Kiwanis and past president of the Newton Noon Kiwanis. She was also a member of Chapter K TTT, the 20th Century Club and a supporter of the Jasper County Historical Society. She was active in several bridge clubs and loved opera. But her greatest rewards in life came from her family and politics.

Jeanne was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Eugene. She is survived by four daughters; Ann Auten of Allen, Texas, Sarah (Paul) McCuen of Newton, Ellen Bridenstine of Des Moines and Laura (Jason) Crowley of Urbandale, one son, John (Denise) Bridenstine of Ankeny, twelve grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



Melany Dell Johnson, sister-in-law to Dave Stolper and Linda Curtis-Stolper, died on July 6, 2019 at the age of 57. She was the loving wife to Tom "Stewie" Stolper, cherished mother of David Sorge and Dylan (Ashley) Raap and proud grandmother of Olive and Deacon. She is also survived by her brothers Tracy (Patty), Brad, and Stan and other family members and friends. Melany deeply loved her country and served proudly in the U. S. Navy for nearly 10 years. Visitation was held Saturday July 13, 2019 followed by a memorial service.

MEMBERSHIP



MOMENT

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 10 at 9 am for a PEW (Pray, Eat Work) event. We are hosting our area Presbytery meeting in August and want to "spruce up" the church (dusting the pews, cleaning the cushions, general tidying up, and tasks TBD). We plan to have a breakfast snack, short devotional and a light lunch. Please plan to join us!

We partnered with Kid Assist for the 4th of July Parade entry. The McGonegles volunteered their pick-up truck again this year which displayed our church signs, took riders and stored the mini Frisbees for distribution by the walkers. Some church members rode their bikes alongside the Kid Assist clients and staff who sported adaptive bikes. A good time was had by all. (See the article, complete with pictures, on page 6).

Our team of volunteer photographers - Dave Stolper, Amy Doerring, & Warren Erickson - are making plans to take pictures of our church family to update the Church Pictorial Directory. An information sheet has been designed to collect your contact information (name, address, & phone). Details of when and where for pictures are being worked out. We'll keep you posted!

CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) is a lifesaving technique useful in many emergencies in which someone's breathing or heartbeat has stopped. We are working with the YMCA to provide a CPR certification/recertification class at our church this fall. We need a ball park idea of how many might be attending the class. If you are interested in taking this class, please let the church office know.

To all the volunteers who help with the many continuous Membership Committee tasks – Bread Ministry, Greeters, Transportation, etc. – Thank YOU!

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn McCallister, Session Rep. & Chair

Thank you, Cheryl

After nearly 15 years of dedicated service to our church, Treasurer Cheryl Ritter decided to retire from that position the end of June. Rev. Meghan Davis recognized Cheryl during the worship service and cake was served during fellowship time. A gift of a travel mug with pictures of our church was given to Cheryl.

Thank you , Cheryl. We so appreciate your time and talents shared with us during this time.



Vacation Bible School

Karen Quinn, Christian Nurture Chair

First Presbyterian joined with the First Lutheran church and the United Presbyterian church to offer Bible School to Preschool through 5th grade children on June 17th through 21st. Approximately 30 children attended daily. The children sang, made crafts, ate snacks, and learned using the Roar! curriculum. The emphasis was that even though life is hard, sad, unfair, good, or changes, God is good! Jane Repp, Tara Zehr, Linda Gehling, and Karen Quinn assisted.



I want to express my heartfelt thanks to my church family for your support and prayers at this time of Mark's passing. Also for the cards, memorials, flowers, food and phone calls. It was all greatly appreciated.

My church family is very special to me!

Clarice and Family
Megan and Family



Happy Birthday America!

Gary Parsons, Membership Committee

This year's theme for the 4th of July parade was "Peace, Love and Freedom". According to Amanda Price of the Chamber, this theme was chosen in connection with the 50th Anniversary of the Woodstock music festival happening this year and to celebrate our freedom. According to the Newton Daily News, there were 112 entries in the parade, which was one of the largest in recent times.

First Presbyterian had an entry again this year. Thank you to Michael and Taylor McGonegle for furnishing their pick-up truck. Our church signs were displayed on the sides of the vehicle. We partnered with Kid Assist and their clients rode their adaptive bikes. Meghan Davis rode one of the bikes that allowed Matt Illingworth to be the "passenger". Some members of our congregation walked and handed out mini freebies that displayed our church information. Rounding out our entry were some church members riding their bikes around the entire group. This year had the most warm bodies participating ever. Thank you to all who participated in any way. Also thanks to Jeanette Shannon and the Repps for taking pictures, some of which are shown below.



Church Life

Kay Parsons, Chair

The birds joined us in song as 50 members gathered for worship at Woodland Park on a hot and sunny July Sunday. They seemed to enjoy the hymn sing as much as we did. After worship we shared a potluck and as usual for Presbyterians we had an abundance of great food to eat. Thank you to all who made that possible.

Our next event will have us thinking about cooler weather as we participate in the downtown churches joint service the end of August.

Church Life committee- Tara Zehr, Diane Moles, Dan Ritter, Nancy Mott, Bonnie Rasmussen, and Kay Parsons, chair.



August 25, 2019	Downtown churches Ecumenical Rally Day
September 22, 2019	Progressive Dinner
October 20, 2019	Movie Night
November 24, 2019	Thanksgiving Feast and Communion, with Worship and Music Committee
December 15, 2019	Christmas caroling followed by chili supper

Ramp Building in June

By Linda Anderson

Here are pictures from the 2 ramps that were built in 8 days in June! The ramps were for Edythe Matson on First Avenue East and the other for Angie White on 10th St. S. Thank you to George Wilkening, Steve Gehling and Larry Anderson on tackling these projects. Money for this Mission project comes from proceeds at the annual Ice Cream Social. This is a great mission our church does for people in Jasper County who need ramps to have access to their homes.



There will be more opportunities coming up - please consider helping if you are able.

Edyth
Matson
First Ave.
E.

Angie White's home
10th St. S.

B.J. Irwin, former long time Newton resident and First Presbyterian member and our friend for many years, fell last week while we were visiting a mutual friend in Stillwater MN. She was transported by ambulance to the Stillwater hospital where they determined she had broken her left hip. Because of possible complications associated with a rare and progressively debilitating disease she has had for several years BJ was transferred to the University of Minnesota Medical Center. She had surgery on Thursday and at this time is working to recover to the point that she can start rehab. Please keep her, Greg and family in your prayers.

Gary and Kay Parsons

The following business was taken care of at our June meeting:

- ♦ Minutes from our May meeting were approved.
- ♦ Reports on our May visits were given.
- ♦ Rev. Meghan Davis gave her report on visits and contacts she has had during the month.
- ♦ The lily delivery process was recapped.

Our next meeting will be on September 8. Thank you to Linda Kirchhoff for serving as Moderator in my absence.

Diane Moles, Moderator



Mission Committee

Larry Anderson, Chair

Highlights from the June 17 meeting:

Cents-Ability offerings are disbursed to hunger programs when total goes over \$200. In May we sent \$100 to Presbytery (\$50 for Presbytery Hunger Programs and \$50 for PCUSA national/international programs), and \$100 to the Newton Salvation Army.

Also, \$200 was sent to the Food Bank of Iowa from undesignated mission funds.

Continued discussion of possible use of the church building for brief sheltering when extreme weather events occur. Next step is to engage the Newton Area Ministerial Association in discussion at its September meeting.

Ice cream social: 310 people were served, up from 270 last year. Net proceeds were over \$1600 for various mission projects. About \$500 of that will go to the ramp fund for materials purchased for the last two ramps and bring that account balance to zero.

Meals on Wheels: church members delivered meals during June weekends to the few current recipients.

Salvation Army cooking classes: a few people have volunteered to help with this, but a few more can be utilized. We will be preparing lunches together with clients at Salvation Army, using the foods they receive from the food bank there. This began July 12, for a total of 6 Fridays.

Hunger Action Sunday for June was on June 30, rather than the 4th Sunday, as June 23 was VBS Sunday at First Lutheran.

Ramp building: 2 ramps were built in Newton in June.

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Ice Cream Social a success. It takes the WHOLE church family to pull off the Ice Cream Social and you all stepped up once again! This year we served over 300 guests and raised \$1,680.07 to support Mission work of our church.

Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!

One thing that we decided to change for our planning for the event next year was to have a scheduler. This person/couple would be responsible for getting volunteers for the evening of the Social. Please consider if you could fulfill this job for next year. This way, it doesn't make the job so overwhelming for the person in charge.

Linda Anderson

First Presbyterian volunteers are going to help with Neighbors Helping Neighbors Laundry Nights in August. Please check your calendar for Monday, Aug. 12 and/or Monday, Aug. 26. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the Mission bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Thanks for giving a couple hours of time and caring to this ministry!

Linda Curtis-Stolper



2019 **BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS**

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thur

Fri

Sat

	1	2 11a Gentle Yoga 6p Book Club at Peanut Pub	3 Diane Moles	4 6:30a Early Men's Group 9a Men's Group 3p Chair Yoga	5 Natalie Camp 4p Wedding Rehearsal	6 4p Wedding
7 Dave Shannon	8 Kert Schnell	9 Carl Zacheis 11a Gentle Yoga	10 6p Budget & Finance	11 3p Chair Yoga	12	13
14 Worship at Woodland	15 4:45p Personnel	16 11a Gentle Yoga 6:30p Session	17	18 6:30a Early Men's Group 9a Men's Group 3p Chair Yoga	19	20
21 Dana Hashman	22	23 Joyce Moen 11a Gentle Yoga 6p Pub Theology	24	25 Chris Norvell 3p Chair Yoga	26	27 11a Jeanne Bridenstein Memorial
28 Taylor McGonegle	29 Carol Camp	30 11a Gentle Yoga	31			

Summer Worship Schedule

8:45a Adult Discussions
9:30a Fellowship

10:00a Worship
11:00a Fellowship



July	7	14 WORSHIP AT WOODLAND	21	28
Worship Leader <i>Mickey Van Baale</i>	Joan Tyler	Kathy Ventling	Linda Campbell	George Wilkening
Host Elder/Deacon <i>Church Life</i>	Kay Parsons		Taylor McGonegle	Dave Stolper
Greeters <i>Julie Brodersen</i>	Gary & Kay Parsons		Terry Rickers Bev Rossow	Chris & Peggy Lickiss
Ushers <i>Mickey Van Baale</i>	Dave Stolper Linda Curtis-Stolper	Les & Kay Gause	Bonnie Rasmussen Shirley Stevens	Dick & Shirley Mielke
Audio <i>Shirley Stevens</i>	Mickey Van Baale		Kyle Doerring	Erick Zehr
Counters <i>Budget & Finance</i>	Jen Norvell Janet Shields	Terry Rickers Peggy/Chris Lickiss	Don Black Bev Rossow	Dave Stolper Kathy Ventling
Bread Ministry Baker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Shari DeCook		Linda Campbell	Jane Repp
Bread Ministry Taker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Mickey Van Baale		Linda Campbell	
Communion Set up <i>Worship & Music</i>	Larry Anderson Toni Peska			



2019 **BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS**

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thur

Fri

Sat

				1 Rachel Anderson 6:30a Early Men's Group 9a Men's Group 3p Chair Yoga	2 Linda Gehling	3
4 Linda Campbell	5	6 11a Gentle Yoga 6p Book Club at Peanut Pub	7	8 Lois Harrington 3p Chair Yoga	9 Nancy Shields	10 Dixie Zegers 9a PEW
11	12 3:30p Mission	13 11a Gentle Yoga	14 George Wilkening 2:30p Membership	15 6:30a Early Men's Group 9a Men's Group 3p Chair Yoga	16	17 8a-3p Presbytery Meeting at our church
18 Michele Leonard	19	20 11a Gentle Yoga 6:30p Session	21	22 9a-2p Days for Girls 3p Chair Yoga 6p-9p Evening Days for Girls	23 Gary Haynes Larry Rossow Karen Wathen	24
25 10a Downtown Ecumenical Worship Service	26	27 11a Gentle Yoga 6p Pub Theology	28 Bill Zegers 7p Choir	29 3p Chair Yoga	30 Kimberly Schnell	31

Summer Worship Schedule

8:45a Adult Discussions
9:30a Fellowship

10:00a Worship
11:00a Fellowship



August	4	11	18	25
Worship Leader <i>Mickey Van Baale</i>	Terry Rickers	Dave Stolper	Mickey Van Baale	Tara Zehr
Host Elder/Deacon <i>Church Life</i>	Karen Quinn	George Wilkening	Dave Stolper	Barb Taylor
Greeters <i>Julie Brodersen</i>	Janet Shields Rachel Skaggs and/or Taylor McGonegle	Dick & Shirley Mielke	Randy & Carol Camp	Cole Doerring Carroll Brodersen
Ushers <i>Mickey Van Baale</i>	Dave Stolper Linda Curtis-Stolper	Les & Kay Gause	Don & Sharon Black	Dana Hashman Mickey Van Baale
Audio <i>Shirley Stevens</i>	Kyle Doerring	Shirley Stevens	Erick Zehr	Dan Ritter
Counters <i>Budget & Finance</i>	Tara Zehr Bret Doerring	Jonnie Carpenter Tom Weeks	Jen Norvell Janet Shields	Terry Rickers Peggy/Chris Lickiss
Bread Ministry Baker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Val McKee	Dixie Zegers	Sharon Black	Diane Moles
Bread Ministry Taker <i>Barb Taylor</i>	Toni Peska	Dana Hashman	Nancy Mott	
Communion Set up <i>Worship & Music</i>	Marilyn McCallister Larry Anderson			

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

641-792-2790

Return Service Requested

Lectionary —

July, 2019

July 7 - 4th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 5:1-14; *Ps. 30*; Gal. 6:(1-6) 7-16;
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 14 - 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-17; *Ps. 82*; Col. 1:1-14;
Luke 10:25-37

July 21 - 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:1-12; *Ps. 52*; Col. 1:15-28;
Luke 10:38-42

July 28 - 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 1:2-10; *Ps. 85*; Col. 2:6-15 (16-19);
Luke 11:1-13

August, 2019

August 4 - 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 11:1-11; *Ps. 107:1-9, 43*;
Col. 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

August 11 - 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Isa. 1:1, 10-20; *Ps. 50:1-8, 22-23*;
Heb. 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

August 18 - 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Isa. 5:1-7; *Ps. 80:1-2, 8-19*;
Heb. 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

August 25 - 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Jer. 1:4-10; *Ps. 71:1-6*; Heb. 12:18-29;
Luke 13:10-17