

Dear Friends in Christ,

Summer is here and long days lie ahead. Now it's up to us how we use them. I've been thinking a lot about what I want to do with these summer months. If I'm honest, for the most part, I want to rest. After so much going on, inside and outside of church, with so many things vying for my attention, with an exhausting winter behind me, my spirit is crying out for rest. But I struggle to balance self care with living up to the demands placed on me by work, church, friends, and mostly the demands I place on myself. I recently came across this devotion about summer and rest. I found it helpful. I hope you will too.

"God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done." Genesis.2:3

The old Porgy and Bess tune that declares, "*Summertime, and the livin's easy*" no doubt was written when life was so much different than what it is now. If you're like most people, you are hoping that summer will be a time to kick back and relax a little, but maybe you're afraid that it will end up like most other summers with lots to do and flying past far too quickly.

But while we may bemoan the fast pace of summer with all of its chores, the packing and unpacking for vacations, and repeated trips to Little League games, it would be good to stop and think about "easy living." So, let's get some perspective from God's Word about the importance of rest.

It can't go unnoticed that God himself rested after six days of assembling the universe. Knowing that time to kick back was important for the people he created,

God instituted the Sabbath so that we would get the point that no one can work without a break along the way.

Tanks that run on “weary” all the time soon lack the stamina to do well spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and relationally. Even Jesus, with more sermons to preach, more people to heal, and more tasks to accomplish for his Father, often went apart to rest a while.

Some of us may feel guilty or unfulfilled if we are not busy all the time. But it’s important to realize that not everything needs to be done—at least not done *right now*. It may be more important to sit back with a tall glass of iced tea and contemplate the beauty of nature and the greatness of our God who is as faithful to us as the dependability of the seasons. As the hymn says, in “summer and winter and springtime and harvest . . . join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.”

Sure, some days, we really do need to get things done right away—people and situations depend us. Especially on those days, carve out a little easy livin’ time and refresh your heart and spirit with blessedness instead of business. Take a short walk in the sunshine, wave back at the trees and say hi to God. Drive for a few minutes with all the windows down, and let your cares fly out for bit. Go get a fun-flavored Slurpee and just sit and slowly savor each chilly sip*. The work will still get done. You’ll feel more at peace, and more connected to our loving God of all seasons.

*Pastor Diane added in that bit about the Slurpee.

Devotion by Joe Stowell. <https://getmorestrength.org/daily/summertime/>

Blessings to you all for a wonderful summer of rest and refreshment.

Yours in Christ.

Pastor Diane

A WORD FROM OUR THE OUTREACH TEAM

With some sadness, we report that Grace's day care ministry, the *Salem Community Childcare Center*, is now closed. The new owners of 14 Salem St. did not wish to renew our lease, and our research showed that moving the day care to a new location simply was not feasible.



But with sadness, we should also feel no small measure of pride.

For 33 years, SCCCC faithfully served our Naugatuck community, providing high quality, low cost day care to families in need. We give thanks to God for the privilege of doing this good work, and for the deep connections we made with the families we served. We give thanks for the many teachers and helpers who over the years shared their good and varied gifts with three decades' worth of students. We give thanks for you, the people of Grace, for all the support: for board members, guest teachers, substitute aides, treasurers, and the many financial donors who with their great generosity made the program possible.

Even in the closing of SCCCC, we were able to give back to the community. A large portion of the daycare property—furniture, games, manipulatives, books, and more—were donated to the Children's Community School in Waterbury, CT, which provides education to low income students. Also, teachers in our Naugatuck community were invited to come and take much needed supplies for their classrooms; we had a big turnout for that. We have now officially vacated the Salem St. premises.

LEARNING TEAM



Wow! What a Sunday School year it's been, full of exciting new changes. Special thanks to our awesome teacher, Lisa DeBarba, who took over the program this year, and has truly enlivened it. The kids are excited to go to Sunday School, and

are learning wonderful lessons about the bible, our faith, and our loving God.

There is no Sunday School during July and August. We are planning a fun, family-friendly learning event or two this summer. And then we'll kick off a new year of Sunday School on Rally Day in September. Stay tuned for details!

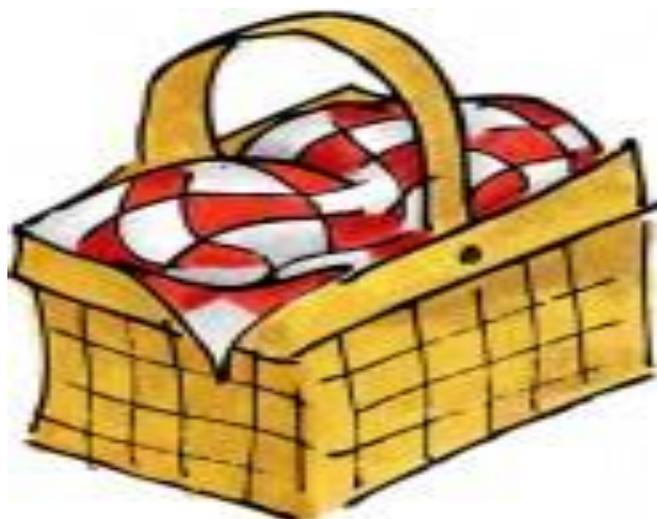
GRACE CHURCH OUTDOOR WORSHIP & PICNIC!

Sunday, August 4th
Bethany Veterans Memorial Park
265 Beacon Rd, Bethany, CT

Schedule:

- 8:00 am Setup Crew
- 9:00 am Band Rehearsal
- 9:30 am Gather
- 10:00 am Worship

(No service at Coen St)



What to Bring:

- Side Dish to Share
- Beverages
- Lawn Chairs (there are picnic tables also)
- Outdoor games, sports equipment, toys, swim gear (there is a lake w/ beach), kayaks, beach toys

This year the people of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Waterbury will be joining us for our worship and picnic. We had such a great time worshipping together on Palm Sunday, we wanted to get together again!

Directions on next page.

Directions to Bethany Veterans Memorial Park

265 Beacon Rd, Bethany, CT

From Naugatuck via Rt 63

- A. Head south on CT-63 – travel 4.3 miles
- B. Turn RIGHT onto CT-42 – travel 0.1 miles
- C. Turn RIGHT to stay on CT-42 – travel 1.2 miles
- D. Veterans Memorial Park is on your LEFT



From Naugatuck via Rt 8

- A. Head south on CT-8 – travel 2.9 miles
- B. Exit 24 toward Beacon Falls
- C. Turn RIGHT onto N Main St – travel 0.5 miles
- D. Turn LEFT onto CT-42 – travel 1.2 miles
- E. Turn LEFT to stay on CT-42 – travel 1.9 miles
- F. Veterans Memorial Park is on your RIGHT

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – JUNE 2019



Vision & Mission: After a year-long process of discernment, Grace has a new Mission Statement and Guiding Principles. We are looking forward to rolling out our new mission statement in the fall with lots of activities: learning, fellowship, worship and outreach events. The team is looking for volunteers to help organize the work of spreading the word of our new mission statement with the congregation and community. Please see Pr. Diane, Deb Diamante, or Sharon Kosko if you'd like to take part.

Worship & Music Team: The Team would like to thank Andy Dixon and the Grace choir for another awesome year of choir. What gift the choir is to our worship, helping us raise our song of praise to God. Thanks, choir members, for sharing your wonderful talents in this good work! The choir will be taking the summer off and will resume in September. New singers always welcome. Plans are in the works for the Annual Outdoor Worship and Picnic. This year we'll be celebrating it together with the people of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church of Waterbury.

SCCCC: The last day of the day care will be June 10th. We will have until June 30th to vacate the Salem St. premises. We are sad that such a marvelous outreach ministry is coming to an end, but we are proud of the SCCC program, and can joyfully celebrate 33 years serving the community with our daycare.

Property: The 'overflow room' in the sanctuary will be transformed into a play area for our very youngest worshippers. The nursery off of the hall in the sanctuary building has been cleared out. The former tenants of the parsonage have moved out. The parsonage will be cleaned and the interior painted. Pastor Diane will move in on June 25th.

The daycare vans will be moved to the church parking lot. They will be given a safety check, and any necessary repairs made so the vans will be ready and available for church use.



July 7 – Jean Frennesson
July 8 – Joseph Chesnas Sr.
July 11 – Deborah McMahan
July 22 – Carolyn Burger
July 25 – Dawn Stabler
July 31 – Peter Diamante

August 3 – Carin Peterson
August 5 – Alex Stabler



July 3 – Deb & Peter Diamante
July 7 – Dawn & Tom Stabler
July 11 – Mary Schmelcke &
Alan Commendatore

August 9 – Pam & Joseph Chesnas
August 15 – Sharon & Ted Kosko

*If you don't see your birthday or anniversary,
please let the church office know so we can add you to the list.*

JULY WORSHIP HELPERS

	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
GREETERS	Charlotte Freer	Anita Carreiro & Mike Hines	Charlotte Freer	Terri & Peter Meleschnig
READERS	Jean Frennesson & Sharon Kosko	Harry Jancis & Carolyn Raming	Anita Carreiro & Mary Schmelcke	Lisa DeBarba & Peter Diamante
USHERS	David Frennesson & Robert Frennesson	Gabriel Diamante & Peter Diamante	Ted Kosko & Arnie Wallas	Carl Nehm & Karen Reisinger
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	Anita Carreiro	Deb Diamante	Shirley Baillargeon	David Frennesson
ACOLYTE	Annaliese Baillargeon	Abigail Diamante	Jessica Baillargeon	Robert Frennesson
ALTAR GUILD	Diane Wood	Diane Wood	Sharon Kosko	Sharon Kosko

FELLOWSHIP FOR JULY

July 7 – Carolyn Raming & Mary Schmelcke

July 14 – Margaret Bender & Karen Reisinger

July 21 – Diane & Allan Wood

July 28 – Carl & Ashley Nehm



Coffee Fellowship

We greatly appreciate the times when folks find their own replacements. Please let the office know so we put the correct names in the bulletin insert.

If for some reason you cannot find a replacement, please email or call the office. Thank you.

AUGUST WORSHIP HELPERS

	August 4	August 11	August 18	August 25
GREETERS	Picnic	Terri & Peter Meleschnig	Charlotte Freer	Terri & Peter Meleschnig
READERS	Picnic	Deborah McMahon & Allan Wood	Erik Krueger & Diane Wood	Jean Frennesson & Carolyn Raming
USHERS	Picnic	TBD	Gabriel Diamante & Peter Diamante	Ted Kosko & Arnie Wallas
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	Picnic	Karen Reisinger	Allan Wood	Charmaine Lawton
ACOLYTE	Picnic	Gabriel Diamante	Annaliese Baillargeon	Abigail Diamante
ALTAR GUILD	Picnic	Deb Diamante	Deb Diamante	Sharon O'Donnell

FELLOWSHIP FOR AUGUST

August 4 – Picnic: Everybody Helps!
August 11 – Lorrie Minervini & Gerhard Roland
August 18 – Sharon & Ted Kosko
August 25 – Deb & Peter Diamante



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PRAYER

Please hold in prayer your brothers and sisters in Christ, especially:



Jacqueline Mezick, John Karlak, Christina Hitchcock, the Bowman family, Michelle Flaherty, Chris Besan, Marilyn Bartle, Robert Sharon and the Sharon family, Donna Paoletti, Joan Slapikas, Marie Lisieski, Ann Martin, Ernst Reisinger, Bill Hass and Olga Sweeney.



*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please contact the church office.
Also, there is a prayer request sheet in the church entryway.*

If you want us to continue praying for someone beyond the month, just let us know.

Remembering Friends & Family

Addresses are listed below for our members who are currently unable to attend services.
A card or note is always welcome.

Betsy Robb

500 Woodside Ave
Middlebury, 06762

Michael Roland

The Village at East Farms
180 Scott Rd, Room #154
Waterbury, 06705

Allan Johnson

40 Lorann Dr
Naugatuck, 06770

Lindy Parson

366 Millville Ave
Naugatuck, 06770

Mildred Evenson

75 Trowbridge Place,
Naugatuck, 06770

Dorothy Fritz

Southbury Lutheran Home
990 Main St. N, Southbury, 06488

Anita Peterson

Apple Rehab
35 Bunker Hill Rd
Watertown, 06795

Ruth Glick

357 May St
Naugatuck, CT 06770

Thank You For Caring!

NEWSLETTER

Reminder: September newsletter articles and announcements must be in no later than August 15th.
Thank you!



Grace Lutheran Church
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Naugatuck, CT 06770

Staff:

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