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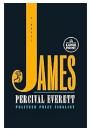
SUMMER 2025



Happy Summer SPC Family and Friends,

Summer is here, and I couldn't be more ready. The warm days, longer evenings, and slower rhythms of the season give us the gift of rest—and for me, that often means a good book in hand. Whether I'm sitting on my back deck with a glass of iced tea or floating on the boat under the sun, reading is my favorite summer companion. Books have a way of letting me lean into a different story and gently lean away from the noise of the world.

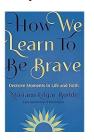
One of my top summer reads this year is *James* by Percival Everett. It's easily a new favorite—one of those books I'll be thinking about long after the last page. Everett offers a powerful and critically acclaimed reimagining of Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, but this time the story is told from the perspective of Jim—who, in this version, prefers to be called James.



Everett's James is brilliant, literate, and deeply reflective. He reads and writes in secret and, like many enslaved people, uses "code-switching" to survive—speaking in a forced dialect around white people, but in articulate, nuanced English among other enslaved individuals. The book follows the familiar path down the Mississippi River, but with a shift in voice that changes everything. Through satire, heartbreak, and sharp insight, Everett uncovers the brutal realities of slavery, the weight of injustice, and the quiet strength of dignity and resistance.

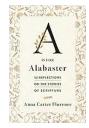
One line from the book that struck me deeply was this: "Hope? Hope is funny. Hope is not a plan. Actually, it's just a trick. A ruse." It stopped me in my tracks. Hope, the very thing we preach and cling to—it's complicated, especially when viewed from a place of deep suffering. Everett doesn't dismiss hope, but he pushes us to think critically about what we place our hope in—and what we do with it.

So yes, James is at the top of my summer reading list, and I highly recommend it.



But I have more favorites to share! If you're looking for something that stirs the spirit, try *How We Learn to Be Brave* by Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde. It's thoughtful, honest, and deeply grounding.

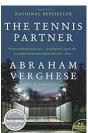
Need a page-turner for the beach or lake? *The Women* by Kristin Hannah will keep you reading late into the night.



Looking for a devotional that feels fresh and faithful? *Try A is for Alabaster* by Anna Carter Florence—it's poetic and inspiring.

And on my waiting list from the library is *The Tennis Partner* by Abraham Verghese. I've heard great things and can't wait to dive in.





So, what's on your summer reading list? I'd love to hear about it. May these warm days bring you rest, restoration, and a story or two that stirs your soul.

Happy reading! Pastor Kim

Birthdays



Bill Hensel Jef Morgan John Stone Marissa Duffield 6/12 Jennifer Barker 6/12 Chuck Burch 6/13 Bonnie Hensel 6/15 Nancy Halpin 6/18 Michelle Harkleroad 6/20 Keith Cook **Tony Freeman**



- 6/27 7/2 Haven Williams 7/10 Lee Oliver Lori Burch 7/10 Scott Ritter 7/10 7/11 Karen Younts 7/14 Mary Beisner 7/15 **Drake Mitchell** 7/18 Helen Jernigan 7/26 Patrick Ritter 7/29 Andrew Hyers 7/30 Linda Wolfe John Ritter 7/31
- 8/1 Cynthia Wages
- 8/2 Kathy Slomka
- 8/3 Diane Weeks
- 8/3 Roger Montgomery
- 8/6 Frank Dew
- 8/12 Classie Meredith 8/13 Emily Mitchell
- 8/15 Carly Hensel Eklund 8/17 Craig Hensel 8/18 Sam Morton
- 8/19 Thea Hadley 8/19 Daniel Berry
- 8/26 Morgan Hayes 8/26 Paul Durant
- 8/30 Rosalino Matto
- 8/31 Jenny Ritter 8/31 Fred Brown



Wedding anniversaries

6/7	Gin Reid & Scott Hall
6/14	Bonnie & Bill Hensel
6/20	John & Ana Atwater
6/26	Ruby & Gordon Johnson
6/28	Faye & Roger Brown
6	e C

- 7/8 Maggie & Bob Stout
- 7/9 Fred & Jan Brown



Charlotte & John Stone



Worship Assistants



June	Lay Reader	Usher(s)	Refreshments
1	Julie	Gehlings	Gehlings
8	Meghan	Linda	Hadleys
15	Gehlings	Gehlings	
22			
29			Paul & Kim

July	Lay Reader	Usher(s)	Refreshments
6	Ned McMillan		Ruby Johnson
13			
20			Atwaters
27			



Would you like to see your name in one of these empty spots?

Call or email the church office and we can sign you up!

August	Lay Reader	Usher(s)	Refreshments
3			
10			
17			
24			
31			

This	Summer's	High	liahts
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- Every First Sunday, Pennies for Hunger, Communion
- Every 4th Sunday, Benevolence Basket passed,
- Every Tuesday evening, Boy Scout Troop 8 meets

Saturday, June 7 Sunday, June 8 Sunday, June 15	Communion; 7th Sunday of Easter Sunday Serve preparation in kitchen 10-12 Day of Pentecost; Sunday Serve; 11:15 Session Meeting Trinity Sunday: Father's Day World Potugo Day	
Friday, June 20 Saturday, June 21	Vorid Refugee Day Sunday Serve preparation in kitchen 10-12; Pickleball	_
Sunday, June 22	2nd Sunday after Pentecost; Sunday Serve	
Monday, June 23 -		
Sunday, June 29	3rd Sunday after Pentecost	
Friday, July 4	Independence Day	
	Sunday Serve preparation in kitchen 10-12	
	4th Sunday after Pentecost; Communion; Sunday Serve	
Tuesday, July 8	Summer Lunch begins: each Tuesday and Thursday	
For five weeks		()
	5th Sunday after Pentecost	
Monday, July 14-		1
	Vacation Bible School, 5:30-7:30	
	Sunday Serve preparation in kitchen 10-12	2
	6th Sunday after Pentecost; Sunday Serve	
Saturday, July 26		
Sunday, July 27	7th Sunday after Pentecost	
Saturday, August 2	Sunday Serve preparation in kitchen 10-12	
	8th Sunday after Pentecost; Communion; Sunday Serve	
Friday, August 8-		
Sunday, August 1	Women's retreat; 9th Sunday after Pentecost	
	Sunday Serve preparation in kitchen 10-12	
Sunday, August 17	10th Sunday after Pentecost; Sunday Serve	
Saturday, August 23	Pickleball	









Summer Worship Worship Mews

Summer Worship begins at 10 am



God calls us to be a praying people. Being in a faith community together, we join our hearts and voices to offer our prayers for one another . Continue to keep these



Dee Dee Lewis (Sonya Charters' daughter) JoAnn Smith Kasey Redfern Sarah Freeman Greg Berry (Daniel Berry's father in hospice) Debbie Long (friend of Kym Stone) Eric Anderson (brother of Tim Anderson) Joan Ryan (Barbara Haynes' sister) Liz and Mickey Humble Valsa Lawrence Nick Doss Jean Stewart Billy O'Brien (Britt Styers' husband) Pete McMillian Ned McMillian Daniel Wilkerson (Tim's nephew) Lee Oliver Classie Meredith Judy Spillers (sister of Teresa Caine) Glenda Neal (friend of Teresa Caine)



Session Class of 2025:

Meghan Hadley Zoe Dillard

Session Class of 2026:

Drake Mitchell Ellen Morton

Session Class of 2027:

Reece Craven Nancy Halpin

Note: Prayer requests should be sent to the church office at office@sedgefieldpresbyterian.org.

Session Snippets



SPC's next Session meeting

JUNE 8 11:15 am

- SPC Preschool summer program is full with 18 children
- Sue Columbi is retiring after 24 years with the preschool
- Dedication & celebration of remodeled sanctuary was a success and a big thanks goes to Inspiro for their wonderful singing
- Charlotte is planning the Summer Lunch program, see her to help
- Ana headed up a Teacher Appreciation at Sedgefield Elementary School
- Zoe & Ellen headed up a Teacher Appreciation at Millis Road Elem School
- Two new childcare workers are hired and we are fully staffed with four caregivers now.
- Men's group is meeting the 4th Wednesday evening of each month
- The Sunday School group is meeting on the 1st Sunday of each month from 5-7:00; see Meghan if you'd like to join

FAITH FORMATION





All children are invited to join us for worship in the sanctuary. After the *Time for Children*, they are invited to leave with their teacher for a special lesson and/or craft.

PICKLEBALL DATES: June 21, July 26, and Aug 23 (more details to come)



Support our Preschool!

Consider linking your VIC card to code 3278. This way, each time you shop at **Harris Teeter** and purchase **Harris Teeter brand products**, a percentage of your purchase will go to the Sedgefield Preschool.







CHURCH CONNECTION

We have a great group of church members that work to keep our youth that are away from home connected to Sedgefield Presbyterian Church. Each group takes a month or two and reminds these youth that we are thinking of them. One month may be a card; another may be a gift card or goodie box. Are you interested in this mission? Let Linda Price know. lindaprice452@gmail.com)



All women are invited to join us for our monthly Fellowship Dinner, held at 6 pm on the last Tuesday of each month.



RETREF August 8-10





We have a great group of ladies going and are looking forward to bringing back this tradition!

Women's Connection 2025 at Montreat

Rabbi Amy-Jill Levine, a trailblazing scholar and acclaimed author, bridges the worlds of New Testament and Jewish Studies, fostering interfaith understanding through her teaching, extensive publications, and dedication to countering exclusionary biblical interpretations.

Details: • Amv-

- Amy-Jill Levine's keynote Friday evening
 We'll stay in a local rental
- We'll enjoy meals together



FREE App for iPhone, iPad & Android

Our church directory is a great resource tool that allows you to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for Instant Church Directory And download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.



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Thank you to the Worship Committee for hosting the dedication of our renovated space!





May 18, 2025









Local Food Pantries are very much in need of shelf stable food. Mustardseed Community Health has a special request for food for their pantry. A basket is provided outside the office and the Gathering Area for your donations. With school soon to be out, "kid friendly" food is particularly needed. Second Harvest of NWNC recently had a 1 million pound cut by the federal government which is equivalent to 800,000 meals

"Across 18 counties, including 332 food pantries. We're providing about 80% of the food they receive. The fact that we're going to get 1 million pounds less will impact what we get to them, which means those pantries will have less to provide to our neighbors in need," Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina CEO Eric Aft said.

Aft said the reason why nearly 1 million pounds of food is gone is because the Trump administration got rid of a U.S. Department of Agriculture program.*

*https://myfox8.com/news/north-carolina/winston-salem/second-harvest-food-bank-loses-1-million-pounds-of-food-due-to-federal-cuts/

World Refugee Day

COLLECTION DRIVE

The city of Greensboro has designated, June 21, 2025 as World Refugee Day. Greensboro is a proud refugee resettlement community. Show your support by donating items for new arrivals.

You can help by bringing any of the following items and putting them in the designated box in the Gathering Area, here at Sedgefield Presbyterian Church.

These are items to be collected: Please, no sample sizes.

- Baby Wipes
- Diapers & Diaper cream
- Hair conditioner
 Dish soap
- Diapers & Diaper cream
 Petroleum jelly
 - Hand sanitizer/Wipes
- Feminine hygiene products
 Skin lotion
- Laundry soap (powder only)
 Dishwashing sponges
- Bar soap
 Deodorant
 Shampoo
- Toothbrushes
 - Toothpaste

Please bring items by June 18th For more information, contact: Shaina Clark (336) 202-7045 or sda0803@alumni.ecu.edu

Supporting & Sponsored By



sboro is a proud refugee resettlement communit Show your support by donating items for new arrivals. Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can.



Mark 12:30-31

³⁰ you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."



This is the fifth part of our monthly series, "50 Ways to Help Save the Earth, How You and Your Church Can Make a

Difference". These ideas are from the book of the same name, by Rebecca J. Barnes. If you'd like more information, consider purchasing this (or another) book, available wherever you buy books. It is also available at the PCUSA Store, <u>https://</u><u>www.pcusastore.com/Products/0664262554/50-ways-to-help-save-the-earthrevised-edition.aspx</u>



Consider using one or more of these ideas as a family discussion and/or a project!

PEOPLE



It is because of human activities that we are in an accelerated period of climate change. Yet while people are the reason we are in this unprecedented time for the planet, people are also suffering greatly from the effects of climate change. We are affected by the rise in sea level, increased floods and

droughts, harsher natural storms and disasters, and the precarious food situation. These events are changing our lives and livelihoods. It particularly impacts those who are more

vulnerable because of age, race, socioeconomic status, or living condition.

How To's:

We are not the owners of creation; rather, "the earth is the Lord's, and everything in it" (Psalm 24:1).

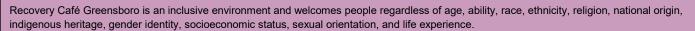
- Attend environmental justice rallies. Find out who does community organizing in your area, be it against factory pollution, industrial air quality, polluted water, toxic waste, or agricultural applications. Join with them in demanding justice.
- Lobby against toxic waste sites and other environmental hazards in poor communities and communities of color. Tell your elected representatives that vulnerable populations must not pay the price of corporations and industries that cause climate change and pollute the local neighborhood.
- Study environmental justice in your congregation. Many resources are available, such as <u>Environmental Racism: An</u> <u>Ecumenical Study Guide from www.pcusa.org/resource/environmental-racism-ecumenical-study-guide/.</u>
- Connect local environmental justice to global environmental justice. Recognize that our greenhouse gas emissions are
 warming the seas on which indigenous people depend for food; are raising sea levels, which threatens island communities;
 and are causing increased natural disasters, which hit vulnerable people the hardest. Learn more about these populations
 and what relief efforts might be possible.



- 1. **Pay attention to natural disasters.** Most individual weather events may not be conclusively related to climate change. However, if we are to understand what the impacts of an increase in storm frequency and severity might mean for us socially, economically, culturally, and environmentally—we can begin by tracking the effects of current disasters.
- 2. Pray for those who are hardest hit in disasters.
- 3. Volunteer to help with rebuilding or relief efforts where possible. One contact is: <u>https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/</u> agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/disaster-assistance
- 4. Donate financial resources to relief efforts

RECOVERY CAFÉ GREENSBORD Several members from SPC attended the 1st Anniversary Celebration of Recovery Cafe in Greensboro in May. Frank Dew is one of the leaders with Recovery Cafe and

involved in their fundraising efforts. Recovery Cafe meets in Greensboro at **Presbyterian Church of the Cross on every Monday and Thursday evenings.** If you would like to help in preparing a meal and serving the attendees, please let Frank or Karen Johnson know. SPC has served a couple of times and would like to continue doing this. They are a great group of people to get to know.



Recovery Café Greensboro is founded on the belief that every human being is worthy and lovable regardless of past trauma, mental and emotional anguish, substance use disorder, or human errors. RCG is another avenue to recovery in addition to traditional treatment programs and self-help groups. RCG also serves as a bridge to help members establish recovery, maintain their stability, reduce relapse, and fulfill their human potential. https://www.recoverycafegso.org/

Sunday Serve continues to meet and provide food, shoes, clothes, toiletries, and family for those in need in the Greensboro downtown area every other Sunday. We can always use help with meal prep up at SPC on every other Saturday morning at 10AM. It only takes about an hour. Kids are welcome, just let me know ahead of time. Upcoming dates for meal prep are June 7 & 21, July 5 & 19, Aug 2 & 16 & 30. The day after prep is always when we serve at 700 Spring Garden St.. See Karen Johnson to help.

Tempe would love to keep in touch!

Tempe' Fussell

38 Happy Hollow Road Clyde, NC 28721

SEDGEFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Church Email: office@sedgefieldpresbyterian.org Church Website: www.sedgefieldpresbyterian.org









