



August 2022

The Mustard Seed

If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed...Matt. 17:20

From the Pastor's Desk

Clerk of Session

Mary Ann Epperson

Administration/Treasurer

John Gurney

Congregational Care & Welcome

Patrick Seiler

Christian Education

TBD

Fellowship & Pastoral Care

Meredith Hall

Property

TBD

Meaningful Service

Linda Stamps

Worship

Jessica Williams

CURRENT ELDER CLASSES

Class of 2022

John Gurney

Class of 2023

Linda Stamps

Class of 2025

Mary Ann Epperson, Meredith Hall,
Patrick Seiler, Jessica Williams

Tom Brokaw for NBC News once said about Fred Rogers, whom we all know as “Mr. Rogers”: “The real Mr. Rogers never preached or mentioned God. He never had to.” That’s a real mark of a life filled with God.

As a child I watched Mister Rogers Neighborhood “religiously,” I guess you might say, and I wonder - because I’ll never actually know- the depth of his influence on my life. I guess you could say that Mr. Rogers was my first Presbyterian pastor.

Fred Rogers had a well known professor in seminary whose classes he sought out and never missed. In her book *The Simple Faith of Mister Rogers: Spiritual Insights from the World’s Most Beloved Neighbor*, Amy Hollingsworth tells about one of her many interviews/conversations with Fred Rogers in which he talked with her about something Dr. Orr, his professor, had taught him. Dr Orr said that on one side stands the evil one. Mr. Rogers said “Evil would have us like nothing better than to have us feel awful about who we are. And that would be back in here [in our minds], and we’d look through those eyes at our neighbor, and see only what’s awful - in fact, look for what’s awful in our neighbor.”

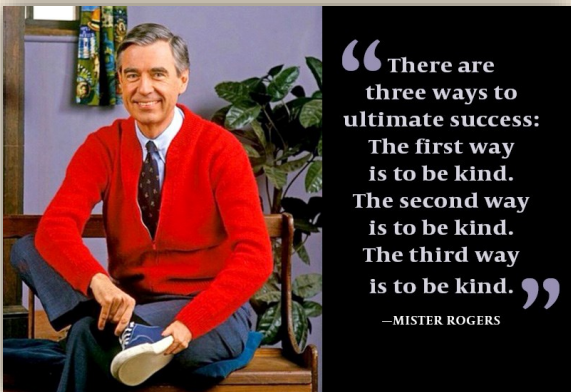
On the other side stands Jesus, our advocate. “But Jesus would want us to feel as good as possible about God’s creation within us,” Fred said, “and in here [in our minds], we would look through those eyes and see what’s wonderful about our neighbor. I often think about that.”

We should think about that often too - perhaps especially these days.

Blessings <><



Pastor Mark



~ PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW Bible Study: The next class is Sunday, August 7, following worship. We'll be looking at Lesson 9 in *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus* by Merryl Blair. **Feel free to bring a snack or sackerd lunch.**

Lesson 9: "What are these women doing in a place like this?" on page 77.


Scripture: Matthew 1

Focus: The final lesson summarizes what the grandmothers of our faith have taught us and imagines what they may have taught Jesus. Through the stories of outsiders and marginalized people we see the kingdom of God, in which the last are made first.



Questions? Contact [Mary Ann Epperson](#).
All women are invited to attend!

~ PRESBYTERY PRAYER CONCERNS

 Below are prayer concerns from the Presbytery of the Mid-South for April. Please add these to your prayers for the week:

- Week of 8/7/22: College & Young Adults
Parkway Garden United (Memphis)
- Week of 8/14/22: Youth Ministry/Youth Groups
Shady Grove Church (Memphis)
- Week of 8/21/22: Public Education
- Week of 8/28/22: Kerrville Presbyterian (Millington)

~ STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

as off July 21, 2022

YTD Income: \$60,317

YTD Expenses: \$78,686

YTD Net Ordinary Income: (\$18,369)

Parenthesis indicate negative number.

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.

Deuteronomy 16:17



Sunday, August 28 | 2pm

FunQuest Bowling

***FREE...2 games of bowling & shoes**

Food and drink not provided.

Sign up on the sheet provided by the coffee counter or contact Meredith Hall at mtm352000@yahoo.com.

You can also sign-up online at www.bit.ly/CPCbowling.

**Donations accepted but not expected.*



JESUS CALLING

by Sarah Young

June 16

Stay on the high road with me. Many voices clamor for your attention, trying to divert you to another path. But I have called you to walk ever so closely with Me, soaking in My Presence, living in My Peace. This is My unique design for you, planned before the world began.

I have called each of My children to a different path, distinctly designed for that one. Do not let anyone convince you that his path is the only right way. And be careful not to extol your path as superior to another's way. What I require of you is *to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with Me*—wherever I lead.

For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them. ~Ephesians 2:10

He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God? ~Micah 6:8



DID YOU KNOW?

Bible Trivia by Timothy E. Parker

Approximately 40 men wrote the Bible over a sixteen-hundred-year period. The time of writing dates from 1500BC to approximately AD 100.



The Red Seas was not the only waterway parted by God. He also parted the Jordan River for Elijah and Elisha (2 Kings 2:7-9).

Pontius Pilate and King Herod were bitter enemies until they became friends during Jesus' persecution (Luke 23:12).

In the Gospels, Jesus is called the "Son of man" over seventy-five times.

David kept Goliath's armor in his tent as a souvenir after slaying him (1 Samuel 17:54).

Abraham was not circumcised until he was ninety-nine years old (Genesis 17:24).

The place where Jesus was crucified, "the place of a skull," contained a garden (John 19:17-18, 41).

God ordered Isaiah to walk around naked for three years (Isaiah 20:1-4).

The youngest book in the Old Testament is the book of Malachi, written approximately 400 BC.

The devastating earthquake mentioned in Amos 1:1 has been verified by modern geologists.

Collierville Presbyterian Church



Being part of a family means caring for one another. Providing a meal is one way we can help during an illness or difficult times. Let Patrick Seiler, Congregational Care Elder, know how you can help.

For those wishing to volunteer services, here is how you can help:

- Provide a casserole/meal that can be kept in the freezer and easily reheated.
- Or, consider a gift card to a restaurant

You can also sign up online at bit.ly/cpcmeals to be part of an on-call group for meals as needed. Questions? Please contact Patrick Seiler at patrickfrommemphis@gmail.com.

~ MEANINGFUL SERVICE COMMITTEE

Your Meaningful Service Committee (MSC) has been busy planning ways CPC can be involved in various activities that serve as outreach opportunities. Check it out:



Manna Bags

Manna bags serve as a small way to help those in need. Our neighbors we often see on the street have small immediate needs such as hygiene items, simple foods, socks, water, etc. These bags are filled with donations from you and the community. We currently have about 50 bags ready to

go. Stop by and grab a bag or two to keep in your car. A previously homeless man shared in a story, "Just being about to go into a bathroom and clean up made me feel human again. You have no idea what these bags mean to people on the street!"



As you may have seen, we accept clothing from our church as well as the community. People are searching for ways to help where they can be assured they are making a difference. If the clothes are going to Constance Abbey, we contact Salvation

Army to pick them up. They use these not only for helping those needing daily clothing, but also for jobs. In addition, some may go into their thrift store where 100% of the proceeds benefit their rehab center. Yes, it's all locally based. We actually met a young man picking up clothing donations who was going into their rehab facility. He was so thankful for the donations!

MSC used funds from the rummage sale to purchase an outdoor inflatable movie screen and projector. As soon as weather permits, we'll start enjoying Movies on the Green. Have a family-friendly movie suggestion? Share it with Linda Stamps.



October is an exciting month! CPC will be bringing back the Pumpkin Patch after a couple of years off due to COVID. This was an amazing community outreach opportunity as well as a great fundraiser. Pumpkins will be delivered on 10/16 with a pizza lunch and unloading after church. We'll open for business the 17th through the 31st. This year we are excited to have ELC partner with us and providing volunteers. Of course, we'll reach out to the schools again for youth looking for volunteer hours.



Hopefully COVID will allow us to host our annual Breakfast with Santa. While it is a smaller breakfast for the community, it is free to all. This is compared to others costing up to \$25 per child. We provide a light breakfast, crafts, games, and photo with Santa. Of course, we're always excited to have John Gurney play Santa and to have the Scouts and other youth help as "elves." Watch for details on the date!



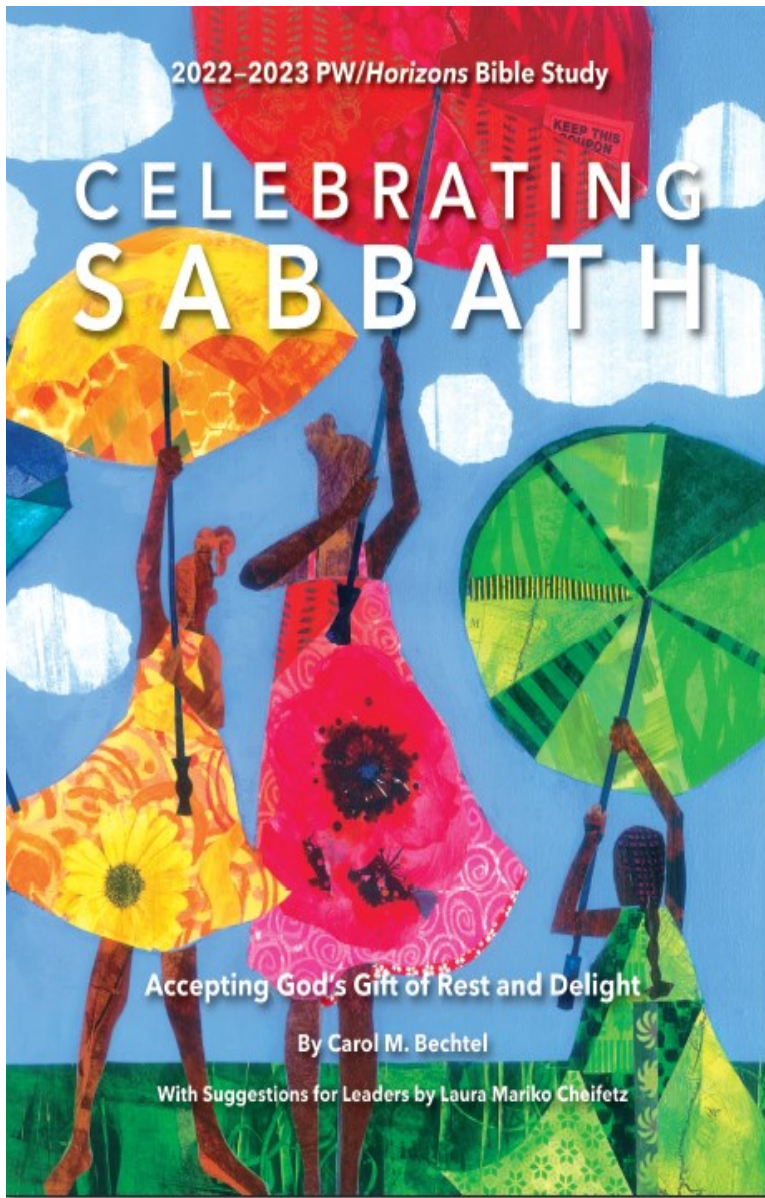
HOW WE HAVE SHARED FUNDS RAISED

MSC recently mailed \$500 checks supporting the following ministries:

- Collierville Food Pantry
- Lisieux Community
- ProPapa Missions America (scholarships)
- Pinecrest Camp (scholarships)
- This Child Here (Ukraine)

Picnic Tables: CPC will be providing 3 picnic tables to Constance Abbey. These will be used by our neighbors for meals, etc.

Supplies: Needed supplies for our lunch ministry (chips, fruit, desserts).



PW Bible Study Conference

What: Horizon Bible Study Gathering for Presbyterian Women

When: Saturday, August 20, 2022: 9:00am - 1:00pm

Where: Pinecrest Conference and Retreat Center
LaGrange, Tennessee

Why: Learn about our 2022-23 Horizon Bible Study
Enjoy the beauty of Pinecrest
Experience Being Together with Presbyterian Women

Timeline

9:00am Sign-in and Refreshments
9:30am Welcome & Devotion
10:00am Bible Study
10:45am Break
11:00am Bible Study
Noon Lunch

Leader

Reverend Dr. Carol Bechtel, author of our 2022—23 study
Celebrating Sabbath, Accepting God's Gift of Rest & Delight

Registration Deadline August 5

Bring: Your Bible and Horizons Study Book (There will be a few available to buy.)

Registration Form

(One form per person or list each name and information on a separate sheet of paper, printing clearly.)

Name _____
 Nametag name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____
 Telephone () _____
 E-mail _____
 Church _____

Dietary Needs/Requests

Cost: \$20

*Make checks payable to
Presbyterian Women.*

**Registration must be
received by Aug. 5**

Detach this panel and mail to:

Melissa Still
8634 Riverchase Drive
Germantown, TN 38139

Questions??

Contact Beth Bowman
901-237-5976

bbowman120@gmail.com

LETTER OF THANKS



Collierville Presbyterian Church
Meaningful Mission Committee
c/o Karen Wimpee
202 W Poplar Avenue
Collierville, TN 38017

July 28, 2022

Dear Karen,

Greetings from Pinecrest, where we are wrapping up a HUGE summer!
I trust that this finds you and yours healthy and safe.

I can't thank you and the Collierville Presbyterian Church enough for investing in the ministry of Pinecrest Camp. We work diligently to offer the warm hospitality and love of Christ Jesus like folks find at CPC. You help us provide quality programming that focuses on our stewardship of the earth and connection with others and God. Your Send a Kid to Camp scholarship grant was claimed to help with programming needs. We were able to purchase books for Huddle, our VBS-like bible study time that we have every morning. We also updated our communications with 24 new walkie-talkies. That's so important as our counselors forfeit their phones to concentrate on campers. That's God's Work!

Also, Hollis provided a wonderful popcorn machine that we cleaned up and have been enjoying during movie nights every Wednesday. It's been a hit!

Your trust and support in our ministry are just lovely. We covet your prayers as we enter our next 60 years!

With prayers for your whole church and your continued work spreading the Good News,


Lucy

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GOD'S RECOILING HEART

One Sunday God got up early in the morning -“Rose up early”- as the Bible likes to say. That was nothing new. God always gets up before everyone else. He made some coffee, and he made some milk, and he made some sugar, because that’s the way God liked it. God poured himself a cup and went outside and sat on his porch to watch the sun rise and the people start to go about their daily routines. God liked to watch the people -his people- every day.



God saw some going off to work. They never stopped their work. All they cared about was their work, about getting ahead, about making as much money as they could. Even on Sunday when they were supposed to rest and focus their minds on more important things. Some made a whole lot of money, much more than they could ever use. God never understood why. And some people couldn’t make enough to pay their rent and buy their food. They always worked too, nonstop. God could understand why. God wasn’t happy about all that. God had made more than enough, made plenty for everyone. But, that’s what they did.

God watched some others from his porch swing. They were dressed up and had their Bibles in their hands. God smiled a bit, because he had given them those words. God lost his smile when he remembered what he seen through the church windows. They had the God’s word, but they didn’t open his words up. There were others who appeared to be reading the words, but they didn’t pay attention to them. They made them say what they wanted to instead. God wasn’t happy about that either.

God went back inside his house and put on his comfortable walking shoes. He opened his door and went outside for his daily walk around town. Exercise was good for taking care of the body. God wished that people would take better care of their bodies, but he saw everyday how they treated them, all the destructive things that they did. God wasn’t so happy about that either.



God had been noticing another thing on his daily walks: Everything seemed to be getting dirtier. Everywhere he looked it was getting shabbier by the minute. The ground, the trees, even the air itself. They were making a mess of it all. It was already coming back to bite them, but they wouldn’t clean it up. They chose instead to live in their own filth. Yet another thing that was raising God’s blood pressure.

When God got back home he got in his pickup. It was a new truck and God liked it a lot: a pretty new Ford F150 lightning. It was electric. It was a long way from perfect, but God wanted to do his part. He pulled out of his driveway and went for a drive around the cities and through the countryside. God wasn’t happy with what he saw.

In New York he saw giant, bright flashing signs and billboards everywhere advertising all manner of goods that said that they would make everyone’s lives better, more comfortable, and more secure. He saw the people rushing to buy them, bowing at the cash register, eagerly handing over their credit cards and offering their money like incense on an altar. Maxing out their credit in hopes that an object would look favorably upon them and give them a better life. God stepped out on the busy street and saw a bronze bull on Wall Street and a huge room filled with people eagerly shouting and waving their hands. Some were praying for lucrative blessings. God’s blood was heating up.

In Washington DC there were people dressed in expensive suits riding in their limousines to the next fundraiser, ready to tell the people exactly what they wanted to hear. He drove past the Justice department and several courthouses, but Lady Justice's blindfold had come off her eyes, and her scales of justice all had "out of order" signs on them.

God drove through Texas but he saw so many walls, that he couldn't see the people on the other side. God heard them though. They were crying, hoping to escape the violence & poverty that surrounded them. But, what would they find?

God traveled through beautiful countryside and tall mountains. God thought that yes, he had done a wonderful job creating a beautiful, wonderful world.

God drove all the way to the west coast to see the Golden Gate Bridge that the people had built, but he couldn't make through the streets covered with so many homeless men and women, even children.

As God drove back east on I-40 he passed through Memphis. When he stopped at the Rendezvous to try out some famous Memphis ribs, a man tried to carjack him in the parking lot. A little further down Union Ave, he glanced to the left and saw a woman barely escape the gunshot aimed at her. There was so much violence and so much anger everywhere God went.

He turned on Poplar and drove through Collierville and everything seemed perfect. There were smiles on everyone's faces when they knew people could see them, but when they closed their car doors, and they imagined they couldn't be seen, their eyes narrowed, the smiles fled, and they shouted at the radio and at everyone they passed and banged their fists on their steering wheels. The neighborhoods seemed quiet and peaceful, but being God, he could see through the closed doors of expensive houses and hear the yelling and the crying and see the bruises. He saw trashcans full of liquor bottles; some had empty pill bottles and needles hidden in them, but the people were always well dressed.

When God pulled into his driveway after his trip, God's blood was boiling even before he turned on the TV and saw the tanks and missiles and bodies of farmers and shopkeepers and school teachers and even students in the streets and fields of Ukraine. God could hardly bare the wails of the mothers whose children they would never see again because of the greed and arrogance of men with power but no humanity and hearts.

God's eyes burned with anger, and his fists were clenched when he thought about all he had seen his children, whom he had made in his own image, doing to themselves and to each other.

God was so angry that he slammed his powerful fist on the coffee table that sat in front of him. The table legs shattered and the table fell to the side. There was a great crashing sound as it landed on the floor. God was still fuming as he reached down to pick up the picture frame off the floor. God looked at the picture. The glass was broken, but he could still see the photo. He swept aside the shards of glass and went to put it on the kitchen counter, his anger raging and his blood still boiling. As he stomped to the kitchen, God passed by the mantle piece filled with more photos. God spun around and saw his walls, and they too were packed with photo after photo, more than any human could even count.



God's breathing calmed as he surveyed all those photos because he recognized the people in them. God recognized every one of them, and as he did, God remembered every story, every moment, every life. There was Adam and Eve in the beautiful garden he had made just for them. There was Noah with his new boat. There was Abraham his bags packed, ready to see the world. There was Joseph in that crazy coat. There was Moses, the staff that God had given him in his right hand, with all those people behind him, finally safe from Pharaoh's world as the water crashed down on Egypt's troops. Miriam was dancing and singing. There was little Samuel with a candle knocking on Eli's door, and David with a crown on his head tuning his lyre.

And it wasn't just the famous and well known whose pictures filled God's walls and tables and dressers and night stands and bathroom vanity. It was everybody, every precious one. God remembered them all, knew each and every one of them. Then God reached in his pocket and pulled out his wallet. Who knows how he even had gotten that thing in there it was so fat. It had one of those plastic cover things that opened like links on a chain and it began to unfurl, photo after photo after photo -millions, no billions of pictures of people. God looked at every one, and every one God would think, "Oh look, my favorite!" Every one of them God's own child.

"O look at that one! There's you .. and there's me!

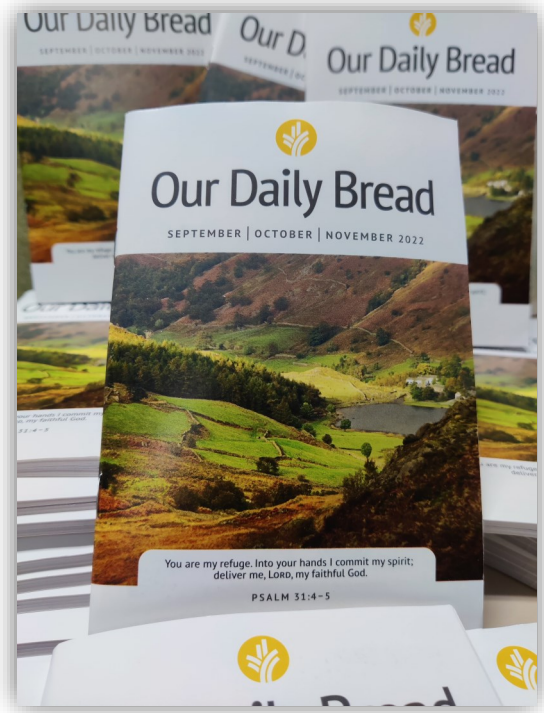
"I remember them all," says God. "I held their hand and wiped their noses, and fed them supper. I taught them all everything they know. Oh, the days we've spent together! Even when they ran away I brought them back home. Oh the plans I have for them all, every one!"

Then a tear fell from God's cheek and God said "Yes, this is ONE thing I cannot do. I cannot give them up. I'll never give them up. Never ever! My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender." There is one thing that God cannot do.





© Bill Frauhiger



The new issue of Our Daily Bread has arrived! Pick up your copy on the coffee counter, on the tables in the west hall, and outside the Sanctuary on the cabinet.

In 1962, the Presbytery of Memphis – now the Presbytery of the Mid-South (Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.) – committed to creating a place set apart for Christian Education and fellowship – a place where people of all ages could stop to listen for God.

Pinecrest continues to fulfill that mission through our camps and programs for ALL faiths and ages. Visit camppinecrest.org for information and events.



MIFA

Metropolitan Inter-Faith Association

MIFA PRESENTS THE 35TH ANNUAL NO-GO GALA

The [No-Go Gala](#) is an annual campaign that raises donations for MIFA's programs, which include Meals on Wheels for seniors and emergency utility, rent, mortgage, and housing assistance for families. Our annual fundraising campaign asks you to stay home with an activity and donate what you would have spent on a night out to MIFA instead.

This year's No-Go Gala features several of our "MIFA superheroes" in a comic book, photographed by the talented [Justin Fox Burks](#), and our team has been so excited to share the finished product with you. Take a minute to [view this online version](#) and consider [making a gift](#) to No-Go. Every donation supports MIFA's programs for seniors and families.

Check out our young superheroes, St. Mary's 7th grade class, who spent a year learning about MIFA and volunteering.

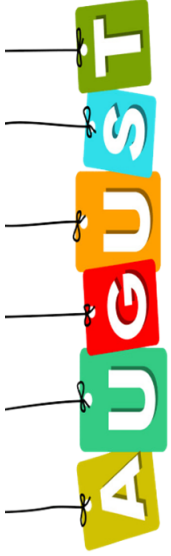


Each day in our fair city, seniors and families face challenges they can't overcome alone. But our brave MIFA superheroes travel at the speed of kindness to help the neighbors who need it most.

You might never know, if you saw them on the street, that these citizens do battle each day with unseen forces—hunger, poverty, homelessness, and injustice—on behalf of a city in need.



☺ Birthday ♥ Anniversary



Collierville Presbyterian Church



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 ♦ CA lunches due (12pm) ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	2 ♦ CA lunches delivered (9am) ♦ Hopefuls AA (5:30pm) ☺ Matthew Gurney	3	4	5	6
7 9th Sunday after Pentecost ♦ ELC Service (9am) ♦ Coffee & Fellowship (10am) ♦ Communion Service (10:30am) ♦ PW Bible Study (11:30am) ♦ Hopefuls AA (3pm) ☺ Susie Allen	8 ♦ Collierville students start back ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm) BACK TO SCHOOL	9 ♦ Hopefuls AA (5:30pm) ☺ Jim Barkley ♥ Hollis & Karen Wimpee	10	11 ♦ End of Dog Days of Summer! ☺ Isabel Francis Jackson	12 ☺ Chuck Watkins	13
14 10th Sunday after Pentecost ♦ ELC Service (9am) ♦ Coffee & Fellowship (10am) ♦ Worship Service (10:30am) ♦ Session (11:30am) ♦ Hopefuls AA (3pm)	15 ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	16 ♦ Hopefuls AA (5:30pm) ☺ Amelia Sutherland ♥ Dwight & Laurie McArthur	17	18	19 ☺ Jim Wilcox ♥ Will & Beth Sweet	20
21 11th Sunday after Pentecost ♦ ELC Service (9am) ♦ Coffee & Fellowship (10am) ♦ Worship Service (10:30am) ♦ Hopefuls AA (3pm)	22 ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	23 ♦ Hopefuls AA (5:30pm)	24	25	26	27
28 12th Sunday after Pentecost ♦ ELC Service (9am) ♦ Coffee & Fellowship (10am) ♦ Worship Service (10:30am) ♦ Bowling Outing (2pm) ♦ Hopefuls AA (3pm)	29 ♦ Boy Scouts (7pm)	30 ♦ Hopefuls AA (5:30pm)	31			☺ Gabriel Wright