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Interim Pastor: Tom Forster-Smith, tomfs@pcsudbury.org

[about us](#) [master calendar](#) [sermons](#) [upcoming events](#) [contact us](#)

THIS WEEK ...
at the Presbyterian Church in Sudbury

11th Sunday after Pentecost, August 20, 2017

Sermon title: "Great Is Your Faith"

Scriptures: Psalm 133, Matthew 15:21-28

Matthew 15:21-28 provides us with one of the most unusual looks at Jesus and how he related to an "outsider," a Gentile woman from Sidon in Phoenicia. If you think that Jesus is always portrayed as compassionate and ready to help anyone in need, think again! This passage blows our stereotypic image of Jesus and may "blow your mind" as well!

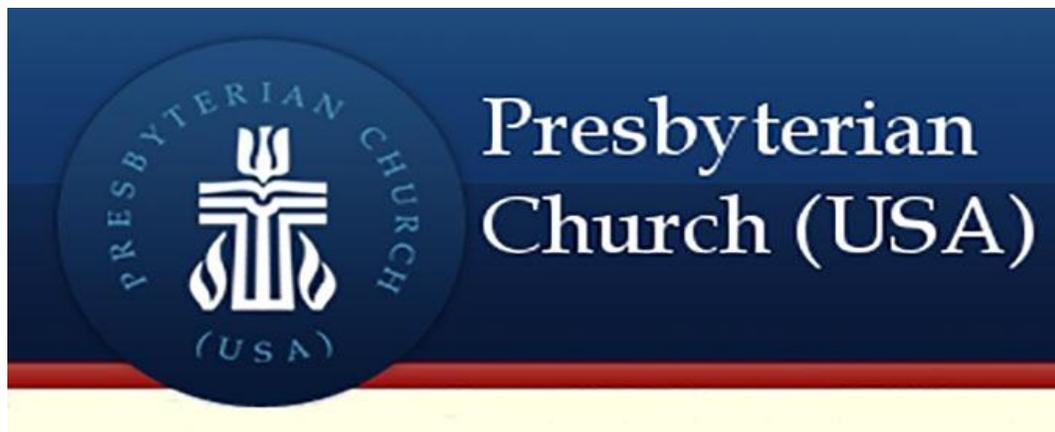
Summer Preaching Schedule

In planning for this summer's worship, we are inviting a variety of guest preachers and speakers to stimulate our spiritual journeys. We will also have a hymn sing Sunday in July. Our part-time interim pastor, Tom Forster-Smith, will preach two Sundays per month during the summer, and those guests named below will lead our worship on the other Sundays. Please also note that in July, August, and September, our Communion will be celebrated on the second Sunday of the month, rather than the norm of the first Sunday.

August 20 Tom Forster-Smith

August 27 Matt Crane

Be sure to check the weekly bulletin or our [website](#) and the [master calendar](#) for additional news about [study groups](#), [upcoming events](#) and [updates](#).



In the wake of the confrontation between white supremacists and counter demonstrators in Charlottesville, VA Aug. 11-12 the Office of the

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Louisville has issued the following statement, reaffirming our denomination's commitment to racial equality and social justice for all Americans:

"In the aftermath of the events of August 11 and 12 in Charlottesville, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) reaffirms its condemnation of white supremacy and racism, names them as sin, and renews its commitment to disrupting them and working for justice and equity.

We give thanks for the presence and faithful witness of church members who stand against white supremacy and racism. Individually and collectively the church, including Presbyterians, stood against hate in Charlottesville. Individually and collectively the church, including Presbyterians, works to disrupt racism and to build racial equity in places across the country. We grieve for Heather Heyer, who was killed while standing witness; we grieve for state police officers H. Jay Cullen and Berke Bates, who died in a helicopter crash while monitoring events in Charlottesville; we pray for the recovery of all who were injured.

We acknowledge that Scripture has been misused to justify white supremacy and racism. However, we proclaim that the Bible's message presents a far more consistent and insistent witness to God's love for diversity and justice. This may be observed in God's delight in the varied creation; heard in the words of prophets who reject oppression and commend justice as true worship; seen in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, who values all persons regardless of any aspect of their identity; and experienced through the work of the Holy Spirit, who consistently blows through all the divisions we create, to reveal God's love for all humanity.

White supremacy and racism stand in stark, irreconcilable contradiction to God's intention for humanity. They reject part of the human family and are utterly contrary to God's Word made incarnate in Jesus. They are idolatries that elevate human-created hierarchies over God's freely given grace and love. They are lies about the human family, for they seek to say that some people are less than other people. They are lies about God because they falsely claim that God favors some people over the entirety of creation. But as we give thanks, we acknowledge the church's complicity in the creation of white supremacy and racism. We confess the church's failure in challenging and disrupting white supremacy and racism. Too often we have accepted the status quo. Too often we have stood silent in the face of injustice and oppression.

By God's grace may we remember the events in Charlottesville; repent of our acquiescence and failures; and renew our commitment to proclaim and live the good news of Jesus Christ. May that commitment lead us to stand against, speak against and work against racism and white supremacy, this day and every day.

May it be so. Amen."

Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly



Next Week's Prayers

Morning: Gracious Lord, bless me and make your face clear to me that I may see your will for my life and know the power of your salvation. Amen

Evening: Merciful God, if I have disobeyed your will, show me my fault, that I may repent of my offense and receive your forgiveness. Grant me rest, secure in the irrevocable gift of your grace, and let me arise for the new day alert to your call to follow Jesus Christ. Amen. *Rom. 11:29*



Back To School Program Due Back This Sunday

It's time to once again sign up for the back to school program. We are working with the Framingham Resource center to provide 20 students with backpacks for the new school year. These are disadvantaged children who need basic school supplies to start the year. You can sign up and choose your student in the foyer. A list of suggested items as well as your student's personal preferences are included to make shopping easier. Gift certificates are also very much appreciated. Packages are due back at the church by this Sunday, August 20. Please contact Heather Goetsch with any questions.

SAVE THE DATE. SEPTEMBER 10

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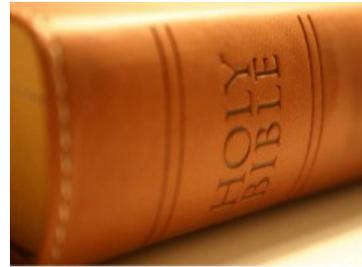
FOR OUR ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC



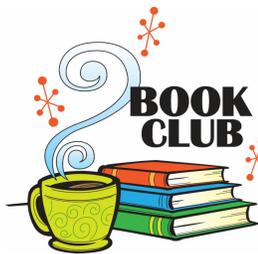
All are invited to stay after our 10:00 am worship service on September 10 for a delicious picnic with scrumptious side dishes provided by members of our congregation. Sign up soon to bring your favorite dish to share. Master griller Dave Hamel will manage the grill with the assistance of Gail. Sign-up sheet is in the lobby outside the Fellowship Room. Matt Crane will be leading games including our Second Annual Croquet tournament. Don't miss out! Mark your calendars now!

Men's Monthly Breakfast and Bible Study

Calling all Men! The next meeting of the Mens' Monthly Breakfast and Bible Study is Friday, September 8, 6:30-8 AM. This is a great opportunity to feed both body and soul and "sit at meat" with Tom Forster-Smith, our interim minister, who will also be our resident Biblical scholar. Plan to attend either as a regular, getting back into the habit, or a first timer. All are welcome!



PCIS Book Group



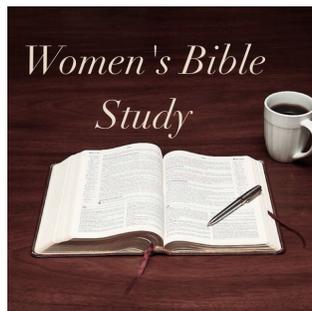
The Book Club will break for July and August, and reconvene in September.

Here is the tentative schedule:

Sept 29: A Tree Grows in Brooklyn (classic) by Betty Smith; Aline Rober, leader
Oct 27: Good Omens (humor) by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman; Catherine Crow, leader
Dec 1 or 8 (depending on Women's Christmas Party): A Christmas Carol (classic) by Charles Dickens; who wants to lead?
Jan 26, 2018: Misquoting Jesus: The Story of Who Changed the Bible and Why (non-fiction) by Bart D. Herman; Linda Smith, leader.

Compassionate Knitting

Compassionate Knitting will not meet in August but will begin meeting again on September 12 at 7:00 pm in the Chapel. Knitters of any skill level are welcome--in fact, if you don't knit and would like to learn, patient teachers are always on hand. Beautiful yarn and needles have been donated, so bring your willing spirit and join us for an evening of knitting and conversation. Questions? Email Rose at rosedeboer@gmail.com.



Wednesday Women's Bible Study

Wednesday Women's Bible Study will resume meeting in September - watch for the date.

If you are an amateur artist, or would like to become one, consider coming to the Artists Group, which meets most Mondays from 7:00-9:00pm (check the calendar below or at www.pcsudbury.org for updates). Contact the church office for more information or just join us!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Summer is here -- And we need volunteers! Feeling lighter in step, enjoying that summer freedom? What a perfect opportunity to join friends and meet new ones while enjoying a cup of coffee. The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall with a full set of guidelines posted below. Open Sundays are: September 14 and October 8. For questions, please

September 17 and October 11. For questions, please contact Megan Hollembaek (chefnutmeg_25@hotmail.com).



YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER

High School Cafe, Middle School Sunday School & High School Youth Group will not meet Memorial Day through Labor Day. All three will reconvene on Sunday, September 17!

High School Summer Cookout!

Our high school students will be getting together at the Hamels' home on Sunday, August 27 at 6pm to hang out & cook out. Please plan to join us!

Start-Up Sunday is September 10 featuring PCIS's second annual Croquet Tournament! More details coming soon...stay tuned!

Philippines Team Meeting, Sunday, September 17, at 12:15 pm in the Chapel. This meeting is for all summer 2018 Philippines Mission Trip participants. Please plan to attend if you are a part of next summer's mission team!

Our next Middle School YouthServe Day is October 11 from 4:30pm-7:30pm! Our middle school students & youth leaders will serve at the Salvation Army's Miracle Kitchen in Framingham. We will meet at PCIS at 4:30pm & return to PCIS at 7:30pm. We will stop for dessert on the way home, so please bring a few dollars for food.

Calendar for the Week of August 20, 2017

(PCIS events only, outside events listed on master calendar on church website)

Sunday, August 20

10:00 am Worship - Communion

11:00 am Refreshments & Fellowship

Monday, August 21

7:00 pm Artists Group

7:00 pm Pastor Nominating Committee

Sunday, August 27

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Refreshments & Fellowship

6:00 pm Sr. High Cookout at the Hamels

CHURCH OFFICE is open Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Contact email: pcsudbury@pcsudbury.org, phone: 978-443-9151 x10.



**HOPEsudbury
Annual Backpack
Drive**

August 11 – September 8

We are collecting NEW Backpacks & School Supplies:

Tissues, Clorox Wipes, Paper Towels, Crayola Twistables, Pens, Pencils, Highlighters, Erasers, Notebooks, Binders, Dividers, Folders, Glue sticks, Calculators, Pencil Boxes, Lunch Boxes, etc.

To Benefit:

Sudbury Public Schools and Mary's House (Waltham)

DROP OFF LOCATIONS:

Goodnow Library, The Performing Arts Connection,
Sudbury Historical Society



For more information, please contact Carole Ann Baer: 508-498-5095 or caroleannbaer@gmail.com
www.hopesudbury.org



LEARN MORE ABOUT PCIS

Stay Connected



Richard E. Otty, Interim Pastor
Matthew Crane, Director of Christian Education
Matthew Guerrieri, Director of Music

Presbyterian Church in Sudbury, 330 Concord Road, Sudbury, MA 01776

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