## THE MESSENGER

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### THE REVEREND'S RAMBLINGS

Beginning on June 27 and lasting until September 5, I will be taking a sabbatical. I already spent 10 days of my sabbatical on a trip to Israel in May (which was wonderful and I promise you'll be hearing more about it soon!). But what is a sabbatical?

Perhaps I should begin by saying what a sabbatical is not. A sabbatical is not just an extended vacation time for the pastor. It is an intentional time of reflection, part of which is designed for study that I wouldn't normally be able to do and part of which is to allow some time for me to rest. The sabbatical policy which Talbot Park adopted last year grants me up to 12 weeks of sabbatical leave every 7 years, although this will be my first sabbatical in more than 10 years of ministry with you.

I am looking forward to this time away to be able to explore some new ministry ideas and to just step back from the daily grind of pastoral life for a few weeks. Being a pastor is very rewarding but it can also be exhausting, and I am grateful that Talbot Park sees the benefit in giving me this time to recharge.

During my sabbatical, Keith Martin will be preaching, leading worship, and responsible for the primary pastoral care, assisted ably by the deacons. I couldn't leave the church in better hands. Keith's familiarity with and love for Talbot Park will be a great asset to us. I am thankful for his willingness to lead during this time.

I also hope this will be a time when the congregation can reflect on its next steps and step into its calling, even in my absence. I fully believe that the less indispensable I am as a pastor, the more I have done my job in helping equip us all to do God's work. As Baptists, we believe that every member is a minister. This sabbatical is a time to put that to the test. Everyone in the church, not just Keith or a select few, are invited to share in the ministry of Talbot Park. My prayer is that during this sabbatical, both the church and I will come away feeling refreshed and recommitted to the work at hand. I'll see you in September!

#### JULY BIRTHDAYS

Dana Costas – 2 Emily Cooper - 6 Jackie Kirkman - 7 Stephanie Wensil - 7 Karen Baril - 8 Edward Budimier - 10 Sharon Woodard - 12 Chuck Steinbruck - 13 Brandon Woodard - 19 Aaron Brittain - 20 Douglas Budimier - 20 Ross Foster - 20 Bill Siebert – 22 Chuck White - 22 Craig Casper - 23 Kali Hyatt – 24 Judy Smith - 31



### **FOOD DRIVE**

Many local food banks run low on supplies during the summer months. So, during the month of July we will once again have a contest between the men and the women of Talbot Park to see who can collect the most non-expired, canned or non-perishable food items for the Southeast Virginia Food Bank.

Beginning Sunday, July 3rd and continuing through Sunday, July 31st everyone is asked to bring their items to church and place them up front in the sanctuary, on either the side marked "men" or "women." We will tally them up and whichever gender has collected the most cans by July 31st will receive a special prize. This is a good way to have fun and make a difference. We have done this for many years now with great results and hope to have equal success this year!

### ICE CREAM SOCIAL



We will meet at the home of Buzz and Sheri Foster on Saturday, July 16th, 6:00-8:00pm, for an ice cream social. Everyone is asked to bring a lawn chair and their favorite flavor of homemade or store-bought ice cream. Toppings and drinks will be provided. If you would like, wear your swimsuit and enjoy a dip in the pool. If you need a ride, please contact the church office.

(Fosters' address is 7142 Hunters Chase in Norfolk)

#### **MUSIC UPDATES**

Summer is here, and I have to admit I am ready for "something different," so I want to alert you to a special service on July 3rd. At 10:40, we will present a patriotic music program in the sanctuary. This year Dylan has offered to put together a brass ensemble to perform for us, and it is going to be quite inspiring. I am also excited that Andy Craft, our own Talbot Park drummer, is going to be with us for the entire service that Sunday. We will set up his drum set so get ready. There will be rhythmic uplifting songs and celebrations during the service. Andy has also agreed to join us again on August 7th.

This might be a departure from the usual music that we have had in the past, but please indulge me. I love all kinds of music and I love including more and more people. Perhaps this is a good time to encourage and include some of our young people in creating worship in new ways. Let's try it. I'm excited, I hope you are too!

-Rosell Carr

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Our quarterly business meeting will be held on Sunday, July 24th. Lunch will be served at 12 noon and the meeting will begin at 12:45pm.

Lunch will be Pollards boxed lunches and is \$9.00 per person, please make your lunch reservations no later than Thursday, July 21st.

### **SOFTBALL**

Our softball team will have a makeup game on 07/08 at 7pm at Northside Park. The playoff games will be July 15th and 22nd, more information to come.



Summer camp is going strong! We are excited to celebrate our July themes of Sports, Disney, Back Yard Fun, and Little Chefs. We will be having special visitors for our in-house field trips that include soccer shots, yoga lessons, Belle from Beauty and the Beast, Bubble Fun, and a Pizza Party! We hope everyone has a safe and fun July!





We are excited to announce our save the date for next fall's pumpkin patch! Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 1st at 10:00am! We are expecting a larger load than last year and not quite as many small pumpkins. We can use all of the help we can get! We have a tentative meeting date of August 25th for those who are interested in volunteering for sales shifts throughout the month of October. The patch is completely volunteer led, and we appreciate all of your help and dedication. We use pallets to keep our pumpkins off of the ground and away from the dew. This helps preserve our pumpkins and give them a longer life. We are trying to get 50-60 plastic pallets to be able to keep and use year to year. We cannot hold onto to the wooden pallets as they attract termites. If you have any or know where we can find them for little to no cost, please let us know! Look for more information in the coming months!

















# July 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 11:00am Communion	Independence Day Office Closed	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	7:00pm Deacons Meeting	13	14	15	16 6:00-8:00pm Ice Cream Social
17	18 7:00pm Finance Meeting	19	20	7:00pm Church Council	22	23
24 12:00pm Business Meeting	25	26	27	28	29	30
Comfort Meals @ Ronald McDonald House						