



July Minister's Message

Summer Is the Perfect Time to Practice Our Faith

Summer has a way of changing our routines. The pace slows a bit. Families take vacations. We spend more time outside, gather with neighbors, and enjoy longer evenings. While some activities pause for the season, our call to follow Jesus never takes a vacation. In fact, summer may be one of the best times to put our faith into practice.

Throughout the summer, we are walking together through Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. These familiar words invite us to live differently, not just on Sunday mornings, but every day. Jesus calls us to be salt and light, to love our neighbors, to practice generosity, to seek peace, to forgive, and to trust God more deeply. These aren't lessons meant to stay inside the walls of the church. They are meant to shape the way we live wherever we find ourselves.

Summer gives us countless opportunities to do just that. We can offer a helping hand to a neighbor, welcome a new face into our community, share a meal with someone who may be lonely, or simply take time to notice God's beauty in creation. Every act of kindness, every encouraging word, and every moment of compassion becomes another opportunity to reflect the love of Christ.

Our church's mission is simple: Connect. Grow. Serve. Summer is a wonderful season to live into all three. We connect with one another through fellowship. We grow as we continue to worship, pray, and study God's Word. And we serve by sharing Christ's love in practical ways throughout our community.

One special opportunity comes on Sunday, July 19, when we'll celebrate Sundaes Sunday. Weather permitting, we'll gather for worship outdoors before enjoying ice cream sundaes, live music, and fellowship together. Best of all, every dollar raised through the ice cream sundaes and gift basket raffle will benefit The Education Partnership, helping provide school supplies for local students and teachers. It's a simple reminder that something as joyful as sharing ice cream can also become an act of service and generosity.

I hope you'll invite a friend, neighbor, or family member to join us. It's a wonderful chance to experience our church family, enjoy a summer afternoon together, and support a worthy cause. Sometimes practicing our faith looks less like doing something extraordinary and more like showing up, sharing joy, extending hospitality, and caring for our neighbors.

May this summer be more than a season of relaxation. May it be a season of faithful living, finding everyday opportunities to connect, grow, and serve as we continue following Jesus together.



Grace and peace, Pastor John