



Brewster Baptist Church

Brewster, Massachusetts
An American Baptist Church

July 2025

Volume 28

Issue #7

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."
~ Matthew 9:10-13 NIV

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus is frequently depicted sharing meals with all kinds of people. Jesus seemingly never turned down a dinner invitation and sometimes, he even invited himself! Whether it was in the home of a tax collector or a Pharisee, Jesus knew the power of a shared meal. This summer, from July 6 to August 17, we're diving into a new worship series called *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, where we'll explore some of the meals Jesus shared—and what those moments mean for us today.

In the Gospels, meals are never just about food. They're sacred moments of connection, teaching, and transformation. When Jesus sat down with people like Matthew or Zacchaeus—men considered traitors by their communities for collaborating with the Roman Empire—he

wasn't just sharing bread. He was offering them dignity, love, and a place at God's table. In doing so, he was also challenging the prejudices of the religious and cultural elite.

What's even more surprising is that Jesus didn't limit his fellowship to the outcasts. He also dined with devout Pharisees—those who often stood in direct opposition to him. Even in those sometimes-tense settings, Jesus remained open, challenging, and full of grace. He used the table not just to comfort but to provoke thought, break down walls, and redefine who belongs.



In this series, we'll ask ourselves important questions: Who do we invite to our tables? Whom do we avoid? How can our meals become moments of ministry—where mercy, acceptance, and the love of Christ are on full display?

Each week, we'll look at a different story from the Gospels where Jesus shares a meal, and we'll reflect on the spiritual, cultural, and relational impact of those moments. We'll see how Jesus turned simple dinners into transformational encounters—and how we're called to do the same.

This series is also an opportunity to take Jesus' example beyond Sunday morning. Consider inviting someone to dinner, or another meal, perhaps someone you don't

Continued on page 3.

The office will be closed on Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you love to help beautify the sanctuary for worship? If you are interested in joining our **Flower Team**, or just talking about it, please contact Pat Lindquist.

Would you like to join our host and hostess team Sunday mornings behind the **Information Desk** in the Lobby?

You would serve at your preferred service to welcome folks, answer questions, and add your smile to BBC's warmth! All are welcome! Please sign up online.

Worship in July

8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Series: Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

July 6

"A Table of Mercy"
Matthew 9:9-13

Pastor David Pranga, preaching

July 13

"A Table of Contrasts"
Luke 7:36-50

July 20

"Setting the Table and
Sitting at the Table"
Luke 10:38-42

July 27

"A Table of Trouble"
Luke 11:37-42

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BREWSTER BAPTIST CHURCH

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BREWSTER BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

Lead Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Doug Scalise
Executive Pastor:	Rev. David Pranga
Pastor of Worship:	Rev. Joe Greemore
Pastor of Discipleship:	Rev. Nate Ryan
Music Director:	Chris Morris
Family Ministry	
Coordinator:	Gwyneth Preu
Administration:	Sharon Kautz
	Lisa Radtke
	Dan Jones
Facilities Manager:	Tom Swaida
Sextons:	Chuck Hilton
	Jason Lussier
	Nathan Carr

know well, or someone whose life experience is different from yours. Use the time not just to eat, but to listen, learn, and love. After all, Jesus often turned an ordinary dinner into holy ground.

As we explore *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, may our hearts be open to the unexpected guests, the challenging conversations, and the radical hospitality of Christ. Let's be a church where no matter what their background, story, or status, everyone knows they're welcome at the table. These stories of Jesus entering homes and sharing time at a table highlight the mercy, fellowship, acceptance, and the breaking of social barriers that Jesus hopes his followers still demonstrate.

We look forward to sharing this powerful series with you. Come hungry—not just for food, but for grace, truth, and community.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Doug Scalise

INTERESTED IN BAPTISM?

Following Pastor Doug's sermon on baptism, several people voiced an interest in being baptized or renewing their baptism. If you are interested, please talk with one of our pastors or complete the form on our website. We are planning baptisms in the Cape Cod Bay for **August 17 at 6:00 p.m.** or we can schedule them in the BBC Sanctuary.



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Can you believe that BBC is halfway through 2025? Every year it seems like time is moving faster and faster. Summer is now upon us and our winter snowbirds have all arrived. Financially, BBC enters the summer months on high! Stewardship is up and above budget and expenses are below budget. Mission giving remains strength at BBC. All the numbers are through June 27, 2025.

BBC Stewardship Income is running 7% greater than last year. Currently, BBC has received \$793,000 and we only budgeted \$729,000. There have been quite a few people who have given their yearly pledge in the first half of the year which has helped the numbers. Overall to be above budget after six months is fantastic news. Thank you so much for giving to the mission of the church!

Overall, expenses are down in all five areas (payroll, operation, ministry, outreach, and missions) of our budget. BBC budgeted for \$793,000 has only spent \$703,000. The church is entering the second half of the year in an extraordinarily strong place. In previous years, we have spent the most money in the fourth quarter. Things are looking positive for the second half of the year.

Missions have always been a high priority at BBC, represented in both our annual budget and through our designated and special offerings. This year the Deacon Assistance Fund has received \$24,976! Which BBC has given over \$32,000 away to help those who are need. BBC has also received over \$30,000 for "Feed My Starving Children" initiative. Praise God!!! Thank you very much to everyone who contributed this year!

If you like to learn more about donating online or donating stock, please contact Pastor David Pranga or Treasurer, David Wilcock.

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Jill Scalise, Missions & Outreach Core Ministry Leader
 508-896-5186 C ✉ Jillscalise@yahoo.com
 Doug Scalise, Pastor
 508-896-3381 W ✉ dscalise@brewsterbaptistchurch.org

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering that we receive, beginning on Sunday, July 6, helps to provide relief to those suffering because of natural disasters or heartache caused by human behavior. Imagine what it would be like if you had to stand in line to receive a small amount of food to feed your whole household. The OGHS helps by delivering first-aid supplies, medication, and vitamins, all over the world – think about how life might be different for you, or for someone you love, to be without ready access to medical care and prescriptions. When mudslides and severe storms ruin crops, our gifts help to plant trees, start fish farms, and rebuild homes. Our goal for this offering is \$10,000.



From International Ministries:

Your commitment to cross-cultural mission reflects the dedication of the Society's namesake. In 1812, Luther Rice organized support for the first wave of missionaries sent along with Ann and Adoniram Judson to India and later to Burma. He dedicated his life to promoting and growing the financial support needed to sustain global servants in their ministries worldwide. You have equipped IM to share the gospel of Jesus Christ and to respond to those in need with God's love. This work would not be possible without your partnership.

For many years, you have been a partner in mission here at International Ministries (IM). Now, you have achieved a significant level of support, which we are excited to honor! We are privileged to welcome you as a member of the Ann and Adoniram Judson Society. The Judson Society honors congregations who have given a lifetime total of \$500,000 or more to support IM's mission and ministry.

Please know that the entire IM family—our board members, staff, and global servants—is eternally grateful! I thank you on behalf of all, especially those whom we serve whose lives have been and continue to be changed through your generous stewardship.



Thank you all for your interest and participation in the Cape Cod MobilePack May 29 - 31 at Trinity Christian Academy. We know where all our meals have been shipped. Praise God!

From Feed My Starving Children:

1. **31,104 meals** provided by the Cape Cod MobilePack have shipped out **to El Salvador** via our mission partner, Cross

Catholic Outreach.

Cross Catholic Outreach launched its ministry in 2001 to provide material and spiritual

blessings to those in need around the world. Since then, thousands of lives and communities have been transformed by God working through its mission of mercy. You can learn more about CCO on their website: <https://crosscatholic.org/about-us/>

2. **75,168 meals** packed on the Cape shipped out **to Liberia** via our mission partner, Reach Now International.

From the Reach Now website:

Reaching the hurting and hungry worldwide with the gospel, food, and practical help. Each day on average through joint partnerships and joint projects, we see distributed over 50,000 meals to any of the following: orphans, refugees, internally displaced people, those affected by war, governmental situations, poverty, persecution and other natural conditions and calamities. We are committed to reaching the desperate and devastated worldwide with the love of Jesus.

You may learn more about RNI at the following link: <https://reachnow.net/>

Please join me in praying for the children at Cross Catholic Community and Reach Now International who will receive the meals. Please pray for both organizations as they serve in challenging locations and face increasing challenges due to decreased humanitarian aid.

Thank you again for all your hard work to feed God's hungry children. What a blessing to serve together.

Until all are fed -
Cape Cod MobilePack™ Leadership Team

EVENTS

Join us as we cheer on the BBC Softball Team, playing in the Cape Cod Evangelical Church Softball League. It is a great time of fun and fellowship!!

All games begin at 6:00 p.m.

July 04 - Bye Week

July 11 - Johnny Kelly Field - 180 Old Bass River Road, South Dennis

July 18 - Potential Playoffs - Location TBD

July 25 - Potential Playoffs - Location TBD

**BBC
SOFTBALL
SEASON**



BBC's Wednesday Walks: Join us on **July 2 at 8:30 a.m.** at the Underpass Road and Rte. 137 Rail Trail parking lot, across from Ferretti's. We will walk and talk for about 45 minutes. Wednesday Walks are planned for the first Wednesday of each month, through October. All generations are welcome to join us! Contact Gwyneth Preu with any questions.

Popsicles on the Playground:

Join families on **July 2 at 3:30 p.m.** for fun and fellowship. Contact Gwyneth Preu with any questions.





Save the date! The **BBC All-Church Picnic is on Sunday, July 20 at 5:30 pm** to enjoy food and fellowship! The church will provide hot dogs and hamburgers and asks that everyone bring a side dish or dessert. If you'd be willing to help with set-up, clean up or serving, please contact Gwyneth Preu.

Please register online or call the church office.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Nancy and Ramzy Asfour, Spiritual Formation Core Ministry Leaders
 774-994-3277 ✉ nancylasfour@gmail.com
 Nate Ryan, Pastor
 508-896-3381 ✉ nryan@brewsterbaptistchurch.org

Summer is upon us here at BBC! And with that comes a well-deserved break for many of our small groups. We encourage our congregants to make the most out of the beauty God has made here on Cape Cod, with the beautiful beaches, scenic trails, and fun activities the summer offers.

With that said, there are still a few opportunities to love, grow, and share our faith within the spiritual formation core ministry we encourage you to keep on your calendars and look forward to:

***The Chosen* – Thursdays at 6:30 pm – Community Hall**

Season 5 of *The Chosen*, the critically acclaimed biopic chronicling the life and ministry of Jesus is available to stream. Our church, led by Pastor Nate Ryan and Kevin Byrne, are publicly viewing each episode of the season on Thursday evenings throughout the summer starting at 6:30 pm. We invite all who are interested to come attend and engage in the short discussion we have after we watch each episode.



Helping the Hurting Class – Tuesdays at 10:00 am beginning August 26

Helping hurting people requires compassion and intentional training. Beginning August 26 at 10:00 am and running for five consecutive Tuesdays in the Fellowship Hall, Rev. Dr. Lee Vermont will be leading 90-minute interactive sessions on the following topics to better equip us to care for the hurting people of our lives:

- Communication/Listening Skills
- Coping with Stress and Depression
- Controlling Anger
- Suicide Prevention-Connecting to Save Lives
- Understanding Grief and its Traumatic Aftermath



Other Summer Discipleship Opportunities

As mentioned above, many of BBC's small groups take a break during the summer months. However, if you're looking for an opportunity to continue growing through the study of God's Word in community, please take note of the following groups that will continue meeting. They would be happy to welcome you!

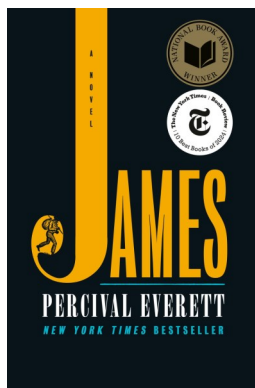
Monday Men's Bible Study – Mondays at 7:00 am and 6:30 pm – Conference Room
 AM Contact: Dick Blaha – 774-229-0850; dsblaha26@gmail.com / PM Contact: Ramzy Asfour – 774-212-1254; ramzyiasfour@gmail.com

Adult Sunday School – Sundays at 10:00 am – Conference Room - Contact: Ramzy Asfour

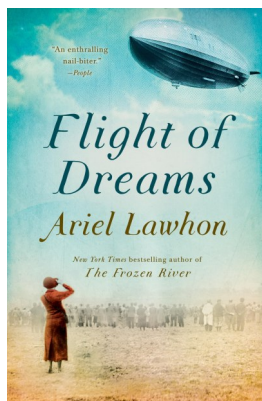
WOMEN'S BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP SEPTEMBER 2025 - JUNE 2026

READING LIST IS AVAILABLE

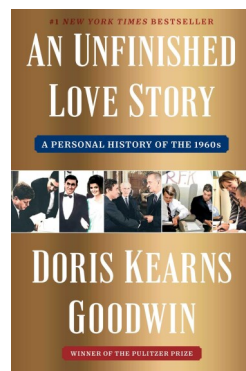
September 25
James
By Percival Everett



February 26
Flight of Dreams
By Ariel Lawhon

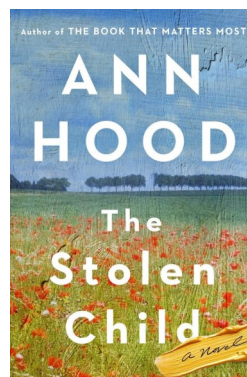


October 23
The Last Year
of the War
By Susan Meissner

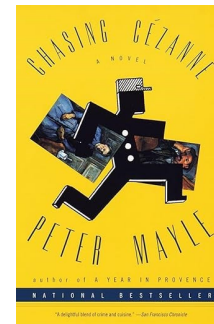
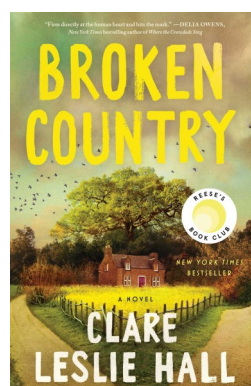


March 26
An Unfinished
Love Story
By Doris Kearns

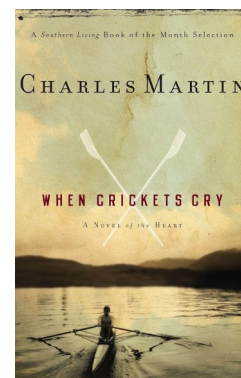
November 20
The Stolen Child
By Ann Hood



April 23
Broken Country
By Clare Leslie Hall

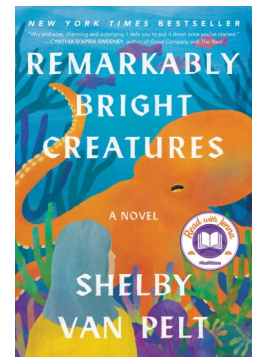


December 18
Chasing Cezanne
By Peter Mayle

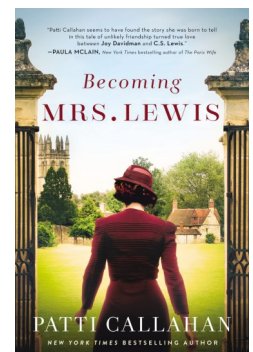


May 28
When Crickets Cry
By Charles Martin

January 22
Remarkably Bright
Creatures
By Shelby Van Pelt



June 25
Becoming
Mrs. Lewis
By Pattie Callahan
Henry



CELEBRATIONS



**Housing Assistance Corporation
Walk for Hope**



Wednesday Walk





Above: Meditation Garden Team
Left: Rev. Patti Ricotta shares about
Life Together International
Below: End of School Celebration



July 2025 at Brewster Baptist Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30p Potter SG L	2 8:30a Wednesday Walk OS 10a Prayer Time S 1p Meditation Garden Team 3p Popsides on the Playground 5:30p Worship Rehearsal S	3 10a Caring Cupboard Parking Lot 1p Needlers CH 6:30p AA CH 6:30p The Chosen CH	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5
6 8:30/10a Worship S 8:30a Children's Worship C 9:15a Sunday Breakfast FH 10a Adult Sunday School	7 7:30a Men's Bible St CR 10a Caring Cupboard Parking Lot 11a Staff Mtg CH 6:30p Men's Bible St CH 7:30p AA FH	8 11a Caring Ministry CH 12p LOCAL Lunch 6:30p Potter SG L	9 10a Prayer Time S 1p Meditation Garden Team 5:30p Worship Rehearsal S	10 10a Caring Cupboard Parking Lot 1p Red Cross Blood Dr. 6:30p AA CH 6:30p LGBTQ support OS 6:30p The Chosen CH	11 9a Bulletin Team CR	12
13 8:30/10a Worship S 8:30a Children's Worship C 9a BP Clinic FH 9:15a Sunday Breakfast FH 10a Adult Sunday School	14 7:30a Men's Bible St CR 10a Caring Cupboard Parking Lot 11a Staff Mtg CH 6:30p Men's Bible St CH 7p Deacons Mtg Rm 101 7:30p AA FH	15 <i>Beacon</i> Deadline 11a Strong Memorial Service S 6:30p Potter SG L	16 10a Prayer Time S 1p Meditation Garden Team 5:30p Worship Rehearsal S	17 10a Caring Cupboard Parking Lot 10a Nurses/LCOC choir room 1p Needlers CH 6:30p AA CH 6:30p The Chosen CH	18 9a Bulletin Team CR 7p First and Thirds SMC	19
20 8:30/10a Worship S 8:30a Children's Worship 9:15a Sunday Breakfast FH 10a Adult Sunday School 4:30p Spain Planning Meeting CH 5:30p All-Church Picnic FH	21 7:30a Men's Bible St CR 10a Caring Cupboard Parking Lot 11a Staff Mtg CH 6:30p Men's Bible St CH 7:30p AA FH	22 11a Caring Ministry CR 6:30p Potter SG L	23 10a Prayer Time S 1p Meditation Garden Team 5:30p Worship Rehearsal S	24 10a Caring Cupboard PL 6:30p AA CH 6:30p LGBTQ support OS 6:30p The Chosen CH	25 9a Bulletin Team CR	26
27 8:30/10a Worship S 8:30a Children's Worship C 9:15a Sunday Breakfast FH 10a Adult Sunday School	28 7:30a Men's Bible St CR 10a Caring Cupboard Parking Lot 11a Staff Mtg CH 6:30p Men's Bible St CH 6:30p AA leader mtg 101 7:30p AA FH	29 6:30p Potter SG L	30 10a Prayer Time S 1p Meditation Garden Team 5:30p Worship Rehearsal S	31 10a Caring Cupboard PL 6:30p AA CH 6:30p The Chosen CH		

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Anniversaries

- 2 Kevin and Jennifer Byrne
- 3 Bud and Marcia Griffin
- 6 Frank and Tracy DeStefano
- 7 Geoffrey and Rebecca Smith
- 8 Jonathan and Bethany Ambrose
- 9 Nate and Jennie Ryan
- 11 Les and Carol Erikson
- Thomas and Michelle Moore
- 13 Tom and Barbara Yocom
- 14 Adam and Susan Syty
- 18 Russell and Susan Hubler
- 22 Doug and Jill Scalise
- 25 Albert and Jeanne Tremblay

Birthdays

- 4 Bret Saylor
- Evelyn Foster
- 5 Dan Eberly
- 7 Jan Cerasale
- 8 Dale Ormon
- Kylie Swaida
- Barbara Yocom
- Dee Dorso
- 9 Victoria Donovan
- Laura Campbell
- Deb Preston-Burger
- Cynthia Brown
- Jacob Marshall
- 10 Bud Nugent
- 11 Leonard Miranda
- Beverly Olsen
- 13 Cathy Marino
- Jeanne Tremblay
- Donna Richardson
- 14 Nancy Smith
- Greyson Greemore
- 15 Robert Smith
- 16 Sherry Crockett
- Hannah Pranga
- Tom Tomasik
- Tom Yocom

- 17 John Kapolis
- Miya Barrie
- 18 Chris Morris
- Mitch Summey
- James Goff
- 19 David Allen
- Madeline Preu
- Rebekah Bergstrom
- 20 Ramona Bertrand
- Sandra Millen
- 21 Sarah LaFollette
- Eileen Vermilyea
- Debbie Stephens
- 23 Doug Scalise
- Sandra Tubman
- 24 Donna Potter
- Jo Ann Ritter
- Audrey Vermont
- Benjamin Glidden
- 26 Jeff MacFawn
- 27 Marie Sherman
- Zach DeCosta
- 28 Calvin Eldredge
- Virginia LeSieur
- 29 Russell Hubler
- 30 Jon Coleman
- 31 Jerry Cerasale
- Rebecca Smith

Summer Sabbatical Update, by Pastor Joe Greemore

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

Psalm 121:7-8

So far, my sabbatical has been full of adventure, new experiences, vibrant perspectives, and fresh renewal. In May, I had the opportunity to walk El Camino de Santiago (The Way of St. James, brother of the disciple St. John) in Northern Spain and have traveled by plane, train, subway, ferry, and by foot. The food was delicious, the views were sublime, and the company was superb! In June, Shelby and I worshiped in an entirely Spanish speaking service on Long Island, and we met with beloved friends from Puerto Rico as we laughed, chatted, and shared great memories while we celebrated (Shelby's and our dear friend Julio's birthdays).

This time away from our beloved Brewster Baptist Church family has reminded me what a gift it is to live and serve on the Cape and how much I appreciate our amazing community. I pray for our travelers as they prepare for a new BBC pilgrimage to Spain this fall.

Here are a few memories from along the way.



Photo Credit: Rev. Brad Berglund, Illuminated Journeys

BREWSTER BAPTIST *BEACON*
BREWSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
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UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2: Wednesday Walk & Popsicles on the Playground

July 4: Office Closed for Independence Day

July 6: Summer Breakfasts begin

July 10: Red Cross Blood Drive

July 20: All-Church Picnic