



West Parish of Barnstable
The Rooster Crows Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2026 

WORSHIP AT WEST PARISH

Saturday 4:30 pm

- September 5 No Saturday Church
September 12 Welcome Back! The Road to Freedom, Exodus 14:19-31
September 19 Food is God's Love, Exodus 16:2-15
September 26 God's Sustaining Presence in the Desert, Exodus 17:1-7

Sunday 10:00 am

- September 6 "Consider the Trees" Gen. 2:4-9, 15 Wear Green!
September 13 "The New Math" Matt. 20:1-6
September 20 "Haven't I Done Enough?" John 3:16
September 27 Associate Pastor Christie Burns preaches

RECENTLY BAPTIZED

Eddie, Whitney, and Otto Gray
Children of Laura & Henry Gray

Cecilia Marie Grady
Daughter of Molly & Brian Grady,
Brother of Hayes Grady

James Putman
Son of Kelly Maroney & Maxwell James Putnam
Great-grandson of Rosalie Jones

SAVE THE DATE!

The Annual Rooster Crows Fair
Saturday, November 21, 2026

We are busy putting our leadership team together now. Watch the newsletter for updates throughout the coming months. This is a major highlight of our church year and we are always looking for new ideas and new volunteers for this amazing event.

Do not hesitate to reach out with thoughts or questions to this year's general chair, Liz Knox-Lupfer (knox.elizabeth@verizon.net).



NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST

Thursday, September 10, 8:00 am
Jack's Outback

Contact the office contact@westparish.org
or Bob Wyman to let us know if you can join us.

PRAYER GROUP

Our Prayer Group is up and running, with 46 folk who have agreed to weekly hold up in prayer the concerns of the congregation and the world. *If you would like to join, call the office or send us an email.*

The format is easy – Pastor Reed sends out weekly, usually on Tuesday morning, a short video with prayer concerns and celebrations, together with a short primer on prayer and ways to pray. You can watch on your own timetable, and pray when the Spirit moves!

YOUR OUTREACH, WHO YOU SUPPORT

Thanks to your giving, we support many organizations locally, nationally, and globally, who do good – Jesus tells us to love our neighbor, and this is just one way you do that!

This month we highlight **Covenant to Care**. They match a Cape/Islands congregation with a Foster Care Family, supporting that family and the children in its care, offering support and “extras” not covered by the state’s financial allocation, such as summer camp, eye glasses, bikes, etc. for these vulnerable children.

And did you know that...

there is a barrel under the stairs in the Meetinghouse for an ongoing collection of non perishable items to be donated to local food pantries? It's true!

The barrel is conveniently located so you can simply bring a few items with you and drop them off on your way in to worship! What could be easier?

The Board of Outreach thanks you for your ongoing generosity and support of our friends and neighbors in need here on Cape Cod!

West Parish Music
this Fall

JOIN OUR CHOIRS FOR COMMUNITY,
FUN & LEARNING

Practice	Tuesdays	starting
VOCAL CHOIR	11 AM	Sept. 8th
BELL CHOIR	4:30 PM	

sing/ring at the Sunday 10am service, holidays

Questions? Email: music@westparish.org

2049 MEETINGHOUSE WAY,
WEST BARNSTABLE, MA 02668

<https://westparish.org/>

c. R. King Designs



UPDATE ON THE 50th ANNIVERSARY GALA!

As many of you know, West Parish Family School is celebrating a very special milestone for this year—our **50th Anniversary Gala**, *Rooted in Tradition, Reaching for the Future: A Golden Celebration*. This event will not only celebrate five decades of nurturing children and families, but it will also serve as a fundraiser to support the future of our school and our vision for a new building.

One of the highlights of the evening will be our **Silent Auction**, and we are reaching out to our church family for your help.

If you own a business, create handcrafted items, have a vacation home, tickets to an event, gift certificates, themed baskets, artwork, services, or any other item you would be willing to donate, we would be incredibly grateful for your support. Every donation, large or small, helps us raise funds that will directly benefit the children and families of West Parish Family School.

If you would like to contribute a silent auction item or have ideas for a potential donation, please reach out to me at your convenience. I would be happy to answer any questions and arrange to collect your donation.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for supporting the ministry and mission of West Parish Family School. Your kindness and commitment have helped our school thrive for 50 years, and together we can help ensure it continues to serve families for generations to come.

With gratitude,

Alycia Williams

SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS



STUDY THE BIBLE LIKE AN OSPREY THIS FALL

We look forward to taking this flight with all of you!

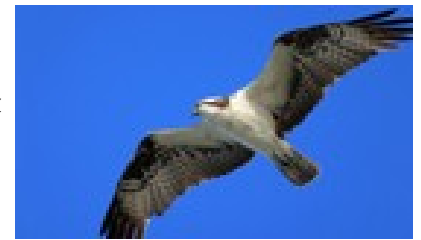


There are nearly 300 mentions of birds in the Bible if you include references to wings and feathers and flying! It begins in the Creation story when God created “every winged bird of every kind and saw that it was good” (*Genesis 1:21*) followed by the story of Noah’s Ark. How does Noah know the flood is over? He sends out a dove. (*Genesis 8*).

Biblical references to birds abound and are some of our favorite verses! What is God like? The ancient writer of Deuteronomy tells us, “As an eagle stirs up her nest, hovers over her young, spreads her wings, takes them up, bears them aloft on her wings: so the Lord alone did lead [Israel]” (*Deuteronomy 32:11,12*). How does he know this? Because they were in the wilds of Arabia, eagle country, and they were watching the heavens – and not their mobile phones, as so many of us would have been doing!

How does God lead us? The prophet Isaiah writes, “But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint” (*Isaiah 40:31*).

How does God care for us? The psalmist begs, “Hide me in the shadow of your wings” (*Psalms 17:8*), and Jesus must have been a bird watcher long before Audubon and my father’s “Life List” with his observation, “Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and your body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?” (*Matthew 6:25-26*).



And Jesus helps us reflect on our preoccupation with material things, our stuff, with this thought, “Foxes have holes, and birds have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head” (*Matthew 8:20*). Are there loved things that you have had to let go?

In today’s troubled times, we might reflect on what it would feel like to be gathered in by Jesus. Matthew puts these words into Jesus’ mouth just a few days before he is killed by the Romans: “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!” (*Matthew 23:37-38*).



Given all these images of birds, it’s surely appropriate to let a bird guide our Bible study. Since we live on Cape Cod and see Ospreys flying back and forth to and from their nests to feed their hatchlings, I have chosen the Osprey. Why? Just as they soar over the waters looking for prey, hover when something glitters, then fold their wings and dive to catch the fish, we also will take a broad “birds eye view” each week of the books of the Bible, and then we will take a “deep dive” into a few verses and feast on a beloved story for closer reading.

The Bible Study Flight Plan

This fall's class is planned as a **basic ten-week introduction** to the Bible, beginning with Genesis in the Old Testament and taking us all the way to Revelation, the last book in the New Testament. It will be a quick fly-over with a scheduled itinerary but allowing time to settle our feathers in the nest each week and peck away at a couple of selected texts.

As in the past, Pastor Reed and I will be leading the "flock" together, and we promise to make it interesting whether this is your first time ever taking Bible Study or whether you are always eager to snatch up every opportunity.

In addition to a Bible – yours or one from the church library – we will provide everyone with a **binder** with an outline for discussion and talking points for each of the ten weeks as well as additional readings for greater perspective.

Class will begin on Wednesday, September 30, at 1:00 p.m. and run until December 16, ending the week before Christmas. *(No class on Veterans Day or Thanksgiving Eve.)*

We also have begun inviting those who have the time to gather beforehand at 12:30 with a bag lunch so we can get to know each other better. Sometimes, there are homemade cookies!

There are three ways to participate: (1) Gather around the table in the Guild Room, (2) join from afar on Zoom, or (3) follow along on your own with the reading materials in the binder and the Monday emails that I offer with summaries and additional information. No matter how busy you are, you can still take part!

I am already compiling a list of those who want to take this flight with us, starting with those regulars who have been involved in the past and want to continue. Please let me know if you want to be included so Susan will know how many binders to order. Send an email to me at betsyaldrichgarland@gmail.com, or call or text me at 401-463-8697. I will acknowledge that I have added you to "the flight plan." ***It's not too soon to add your name to the list – and if you are not online and need hard copies of everything, that's do-able too!***

Fasten your seat belts!

Reverend Betsy

A Word from the Rooster Crows Creative Crew

It's September and we are BACK...Back to school, back to regular routines, back to Saturday worship services, and back to weekly creating & crafting!

Beginning on Thursday, September 10 we will meet **every Thursday** morning from 10:00am until about noon in Jenkins Hall. All are welcome, whether you consider yourself an accomplished artist/crafter/maker or you think you are all thumbs, we have a variety of projects that fit all skill levels.



We have been working all summer on several projects that will be featured at the 2026 Rooster Crows Fair. There are still plenty of things to work on, so join us!

Can't make it to a morning session but would still like to be creative ~ we have supplies and patterns that can be made into take home kits. See a crafter at coffee hour or let Susan in the office know and she will pass your request on to us!

OUR PRAYER LIST

*May the presence of Jesus Christ be with those on our prayer list
and with those who care for them.*

The prayers of the congregation are asked for:

Christopher Allen (Carol & David Allen's grandson)

The Atsalis Family

(friends of Rich & Lauren Abraham)

Chuck Conway

Judy Crawford (Robin Fryer's friend)

Ella Curtis (Carol Allen's grand-niece)

Tad DeMarco (Robin Fryer's brother)

Emy and Yessica (friends of Christie Burns)

Robin Fryer

Rudy Giannetti (friend of Paula King)

Bob Gimby

Donna Grohe

Tripp Grohe

Sarah and Cody Hudspeth

(Sharon Hunt's niece & her husband)

Clyde Hunt (brother of John Hunt)

Gina Jacinto (Joanna Wallace's friend)

Karen & Judy (from Minuteman Press)

Dave & Barbara Kern (friends of Joanna Wallace)

Corinne Lilie

Sue Maki (Joanna Wallace's friend)

Lily McCardle

(granddaughter of Elaine & Stephen Bartlett)

Jason Miller (Robin & Jim Miller's son)

Peggy Nelson

Greg Opp (family member of Bobbie Jordan)

Randy Parker

Carol Polidoro

Betsy Sinnigen

Bart Stevens (friend of Carol Allen)

Annie Taber

Gary Toye (Bobbie Jordan's brother)

Marvin Toye (Bobbie Jordan's brother)

Roy Urbach (friend of Karen Datlowe)

Joanna Wallace

Nick Wallace (friend of the Allen family)

Chuck Wildman

*If you have any corecctions or additions,
Please let us know. Contact the office at
contact@westparish.org or 508-362-4445*

Going Over the Bridge?



Contact us with your dates
so we can keep you up to date
with West Parish's events
contact@westparish.org

Happy Birthday

To our West Parish members and friends

- 2 Bob Stolte
- 2 Julia Baer
- 3 Jack Sinnigen
- 7 Autumn Shaw
- 7 Earl Marryat
- 10 Theresa Bell
- 10 Kim Palmer
- 12 Fran Moore
- 14 Shirley Stolte
- 14 Katie Dehertogh
- 15 Alex Haven
- 15 Tim O'Neill
- 15 Betsy Garland
- 19 Priscilla Wrenn
- 19 Daniel Spurling
- 21 Sue McEwen
- 21 Matt Lee
- 21 Betsy Sinnigen
- 22 Susan Spurling
- 23 Corinne Lilie
- 23 Charlotte Smith
- 24 Mary Ziino
- 25 Mary McCormick
- 25 Maddie Borglund

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10 am Worship 5 pm AA (I)	6	13	20 10 am Worship 11:30 am Deacons (G) 5 pm AA (I)	27 10 am Worship 5 pm AA (I)	1 First Day of Family School 5 pm AA (I)	8 11 am Choir Rehearsal (M) 4:30 pm Bell Choir (M) 5 pm AA (I) 6:45 pm WB Civic Assoc. (G)	15 11 am Choir Rehearsal (M) 4:30 pm Bell Choir (M) 5 pm AA (I) 6:45 pm WB Festival Assoc. (G)	22 11 am Choir Rehearsal (M) 4:30 pm Bell Choir (M) 5 pm AA (I)	29 11 am Choir Rehearsal (M) 4:30 pm Bell Choir (M) 5 pm AA (I)	2 5 pm AA (I)	9 4 pm FS Board (G) 5 pm AA (I)	16 5 pm AA (I)	23 5 pm AA (I)	30 12:30 pm Bible Study Lunch Group (G) 1 pm Bible Study (G & Z) 5 pm AA (I)	3 5 pm AA (I)	10 8 am Men's Breakfast at Jack's Out Back 10 am Creative Crafters (I) 4 pm RC Fair Comm. (G) 5 pm AA (I)	17 ROOSTER CROWS ARTICLES DUE 10 am Creative Crafters (I) 4 pm Finance (G) 4 pm Webb/Jenkins Rehearsal (M) 5 pm AA (I) 5:30 pm Building Comm. (G)	24 10 am Creative Crafters (I) 5 pm AA (I)	25 10 am Knitting Group (G) 5 pm AA (I)	4 10 am Knitting Group (G) 5 pm AA (I)	11 10 am Knitting Group (G) 5 pm AA (I) 7 pm Organ Concert 25th Anniversary of 9/11	18 10 am Knitting Group 4 pm Webb/Jenkins Wedding (M) 5 pm AA (I) 7 pm Cape Cod & the American Revolution (M)	26 4:30 pm Worship	5	12 4:30 pm Worship	19 4:30 pm Worship	26 4:30 pm Worship	
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For the most up to date calendar go to <https://westparish.org/calendar-2/>

Key: G = Guild Room; J = Jenkins Hall; M = Meetinghouse; FS = Family School;
Z = Zoom; MHF = 1717 Meetinghouse Foundation

West Parish of Barnstable

2049 Meetinghouse Way
P.O. Box 219
West Barnstable, MA 02668



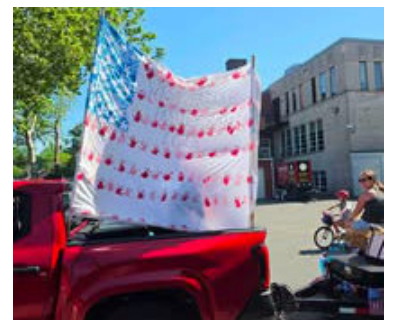
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Some Summer Happenings from West Parish



Rooster Crows Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the October 2026 newsletter is Thursday, September 17.

Submissions can be made by mail, email, calling, or coming into the office.

P.O. Box 219, W. Barnstable, MA 02668 contact@westparish.org 508-362-4445