



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DANVILLE

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS JULY 22, 2026



Friends,



Five weeks, 104 games and 308 goals later, the World Cup has ended, with Spain lifting the trophy, and moving to the top spot in FIFA's rankings. Thirty-five years ago, after captaining Hellesdon Angels FC to a second place finish in the 1990-91 season of the Norfolk Church league, I lifted the Bishop's Cup, after we defeated the perennial powerhouse team, Wroxham Road Methodist, 2-0 in the final. I also scored both goals. And didn't realize at the time that that would be my last competitive game on English soil, leaving for the US a few months later.

Some of you - like our family - watched the World Cup avidly, cheering on your team till the bitter end - which came sooner for some than others. England achieved their best finish since 1966, but for fans, it will always be the year of what could/should have been. Some of you may have become converts to "the beautiful game," and now can tell Ted Lasso how the offside rule works with confidence. There has been much media coverage of the delight of the visiting fans encountering American

culture and food for the first time. Host cities fell in love with the teams and fans they hosted ([Boston](#) and the Tartan army, [Kansas City](#) and the Algerians).

On the field, several countries made their first appearance in a World Cup, and some of their players captured the hearts of the world (looking at you, Josimar Dias, Cape Verde goalie). Like most things these days, politics and politicians felt the need to insert themselves into the tournament, providing a distraction at best, interference at worst. It was a memorable tournament for all kinds of reasons, but I think the thing I will remember most (besides England scoring 6 goals against France in the third place game) is how opposing players from interacted on the field. While it is an honor to present one's country on the field, in most games, club teammates found themselves on opposite sides for once. I loved the smiles, good-natured shoves, and acts of consolation that many shared as the tournament progressed. There was the small group of English and French players who circled up to pray together immediately following that amazing 6-4 game, their faith bringing them together, even as the scoreline could have driven them apart. Such moments spread across the 104 games reminded me yet again, that we are connected to one another in more ways than those that might divide us. That one can be gracious in both victory and defeat. That you can choose to delay your celebration of a famous victory in order to comfort the player who missed the penalty that gave you the win.



Yes, there was also evidence of long-standing, deeply held grudges, of racism, of nationalism, and the temptation to resort to violence when one doesn't get one's way. And money and politics cast a long shadow over the tournament. But there was far more to celebrate along the way, and we saw ourselves at our best in so many moments, and were reminded that there are indeed more things that connect us to one another than divide us. The beautiful game, indeed.

The best is yet to come,

Jean

GEOGRAPHY TRIVIA CHALLENGE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29TH
6:30 – 8:00 PM

TO REGISTER:
 CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE
 (859) 236-6692
 OR
 BO SMITH
 (859) 236-1302

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DANVILLE
 (CORNER OF 5TH AND WALNUT)

ENTRY FEE:
\$10/PERSON
 OR **\$50 FOR A TEAM OF 6**
 PAY AT THE DOOR

Free Snacks!

Prize for Winning Team!

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
 Kentucky Refugee Ministries

Think Globally.
 Compete Locally!

SERVE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR GODLY PLAY

The Godly Play program is in need of a few storytellers and doorpersons for the upcoming program year. If you like working with children, this is the job for you! If you are interested in volunteering, contact [Amy Wilson](#) for more information, or you can talk to any of our current or former storytellers (Jean Smith, Kari Young, Susan Shewmaker, Tara Strauch, Kathy Howells, or Frank Russell) or doorpersons (Eric Smith, Brad and Kristen Fulfer, Louis Seidel, Katie Banks, or Spencer Young). Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to help guide our children.



SIGN UP FOR FELLOWSHIP SNACKS

We need snacks for our fellowship time after Sunday worship. Please sign up on the form in the Fellowship Hall. Available dates are August 2, 16, September 6 and 13. If you have questions, call or text AnnYager McCrosky at (859) 583-3141.



NEWS AND NOTES

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

School starts in just a few weeks, so it's time for our annual Back-to-School Blessing. All students, teachers, professors, and administrators are invited to bring your backpack or briefcase to worship on Sunday, August 9 to receive a blessing and a backpack tag.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

The background of the poster is a photograph of the Georgia State Capitol building, featuring its iconic dome and classical architecture. The building is set against a clear sky, and the foreground shows a well-maintained lawn and a paved walkway leading towards the entrance.

Summer Singers
in Concert

*Singing
America's
Music*

Thursday, July 30, 2026
7:30 p.m.

First Christian Church
Danville

Donations accepted to support Danville Sings

CALENDAR

Wednesday, July 22

- 8:00am Grace Café Food Prep
- 9:00am Adult Ed/GED
- 10:00am AA Meeting
- 1:30pm Worship Staff Meeting
- 5:30pm Summer Potluck

Thursday, July 23

- 8:00am Grace Café Food Prep
- 9:00am Adult Ed/GED
- 5:30pm Danville Dulcimers
- 7:00pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting

Friday, July 24

- 9:00am Adult Ed/GED
- 9:00am The Art Center of the Bluegrass Kids' Art
- 10:00am AA Meeting
- 1:00pm Presbydan Mah Jongg

Saturday, July 25

No Events Scheduled

Sunday, July 26

- 10:00am Service for the Lord's Day
- 11:00am Fellowship

Monday, July 27

- 8:00am Grace Café Food Prep
- 9:00am Adult Ed/GED
- 10:00am AA Meeting
- 4:00pm Monday Prayer Group

Tuesday, July 28

- 8:00am Grace Café Food Prep
- 9:00am Adult Ed/GED
- 10:00am Recovery Café
- 6:00pm Recovery Meeting