



First Presbyterian Church of Sussex
PRESBYTERIAN
PRESS

21 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07461

June 2021

From the Pastor's Desk....

Hello again!

I'm not sure about you, but 2021 is going by incredibly quickly for me. It feels like I blinked and now it's already June! The summer is upon us. We've passed Memorial Day—the official start to the summer in New Jersey—so the summer is off to the races!

In my experience, for churches not at the shore, the summer in New Jersey means somewhat empty pews. Since this is my first summer with you all, I guess I'll be finding out soon if that's the case here, too. Maybe you'll find yourself 'down the shore' every weekend, or by the lake enjoying the cool water, or you're just too hot to put on nicer clothes and sit in an un-air-conditioned sanctuary. Wherever you find yourself this summer, I hope you know God is with you wherever you go! Just as Jonah—who tried to evade God's calling on his life and ended up in the stomach of the giant fish! We can't escape God's love and presence in our lives.

One beautiful thing about summer is (on average) a greater than normal time spent outside. I hope that's true for you this year. The Psalmist writes: *Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it. Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy! (Psalm 96:11-12).* Perhaps, you can find yourself worshiping God with all of creation this summer.

Remember that your church family is here and will be here (in the sanctuary, on ZOOM, and recordings posted to YouTube) throughout these months—and in July and August, we'll be worshipping at 9:30 a.m. to beat some of that heat. And we'll be looking at some fun stories and people throughout the summer—stay tuned for several weeks on various Parables of Jesus and then on women in the Bible.

I'm looking forward to seeing what summertime in Sussex is like! As the year speeds by, I try to fully enjoy all that there is to offer wherever God has led me and called me. May the same be true for you and your family.

In Christ,

Pastor Katherine Scott-Kirschner
(973) 771-4721 (cell)





Session Highlights

Session met on May 20th. The following items were discussed:

- Visitations to our congregation by Deacon Phil Hardin and Pastor Katherine continue.
- Sunday School is scheduled only for May 23, 2021. Consideration will be given to a full schedule for the fall of 2021.
- There continue to be 122 active members of our church. Hopefully and prayerfully, we will see an increase in our congregation over time.
- Richard L. Hayzler, our Nominating Committee Chair, is looking for those who would like to serve as elders and deacons. Please see your way clear to serve.
- Pastor Katherine will be on vacation from **June 28-July 4, 2021**. Her study leave will occur from **August 29-September 4, 2021**. Communion will be rescheduled **from July 4th to July 11th**.
- The manse is presently non-occupied. Art Van Houten and Charles Bates continue to monitor its security.
- More liturgists are needed. Please see Ruling Elder Mike Kosco if you can assist, whether in person or on the ZOOM platform.
- Sunday worship will start at 9:30 a.m. during the months of July and August.
- Sharon Alheidt, chair of the Hospitality Committee, has scheduled coffee hour outside after worship, weather permitting. Consideration for coffee hour after worship in the fall of 2021.
- Forty percent of the Pentecost Offering, which will be collected on **May 23rd**, will be sent to the counseling center at Newton Medical Center for youth dealing with mental health crises.
- An amendment of our by-laws was made to include electronic means to conduct meetings and record minutes.
- The next regular Session meeting will be held online on **Tuesday, June 15, 2021**, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Bates, Clerk to Session

Mark Your Calendars

The next regular Deacons' meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 1st**, 7:00 p.m., online; the next regular Session meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 15th**, 6:30 p.m., online.



Worshiping In Person Update



Governor Murphy has lifted the mask mandate for fully-vaccinated people, as of May 28th. The church leadership asks that you please continue to wear masks during worship for the coming months. Your church leaders will keep you updated about any and all changes to the church's policy. For now, we know not everyone is fully vaccinated, and we want all people to feel as safe as possible while worshiping together.

Thank you for your continued mask use—the church will continue to have masks available for you to use, in case you forget to bring your own.

Summer Worship Schedule

Beginning **Sunday, July 4th**, our worship service starts at 9:30 a.m. **through August 29th**. Please mark your calendar so you won't miss it!!



Church Directory



We are working on updating our Church Directory....please email your information (name, address, telephone number, cell phone number(s), email address) to the church office at sussexpresbyterian@embarqmail.com , or mail it to the church at 21 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07461, or call the church office at 973-875-4760. Please have your information in to the church office by **June 10th**.

Calling All Graduates!!!

We are compiling a list of those members and children/grandchildren of members who are graduating or have graduated from various schools from pre-school on up. Please submit the following information to the church office by **June 15th**: name, school attended, degree, awards, or grade completed, and where they are off to next (school, job, etc.). Also, we would like to put a photo of your graduate in the newsletter. You can email your picture to the church at sussexpresbyterian@embarqmail.com. Congratulations to all our graduates!



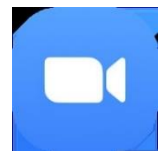
Pastoral Care



Pastor Katherine aims to be in the office on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays. She is available at her cell phone number (973-771-4721) the rest of the days and for longer conversations in the evenings. She sets aside Friday evening through Saturday evening as her Sabbath (around 5:00 – 5:00 p.m.) most weeks. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please still reach out.

Individual Gatherings with ZOOM

Every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., there will be space on ZOOM to gather with each other. Sharon Bove will send out the invite/reminder every **Tuesday**.



Ask the Pastor Anything: Mark your calendars for **June 9th**, at 7:30 p.m., for a half-hour “Ask the Pastor Anything.” Pastor Katherine has decided to put herself in the hot seat. Pastor Katherine will take your questions and answer them to the best of her ability. If you stump her, maybe you'll even receive a prize! Hope you will join us!

Why Per Capita?



Per Capita exists as a way for all Presbyterians to share costs that belong to the whole church and to give meaning to the interdependent nature of Presbyterian polity. For 2021, each member's contribution is \$40.00.

Per Capita is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. It exists to allow the whole church to share equitably in those things that make us Presbyterian: our theological identity, our connectedness as communities of faith, our core structures that keep us together as a church, and our call to work for full participation in decision making.

Sunday School News

Sunday school will meet on June 20th for their last class before the summer. Sunday school runs from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m., for Pre-K through Adult. Please see Ashley Ziccardi if you have any questions.



From the Finance Committee



Even though we re-opened the church, not everyone is ready for in-person worship. Our bills still need to be paid. For those of you who are not returning to in-person worship, please remember to keep up with your weekly contribution. If you pay your bills using online banking, consider scheduling your weekly or monthly giving like other regular payments. This will greatly assist with our cash flow. Thank you!

We have online giving! There is a 'donate here' link on our website, www.sussexpresbyterian.org or you can download the GivePlus Mobile App (Vanco) to your smart phone. Our online giving program is provided by the Presbyterian Foundation in partnership with Vanco Services, LLC. Both the Presbyterian Foundation and Vanco Services have very good reputations, and this online giving program came highly recommended by other churches.

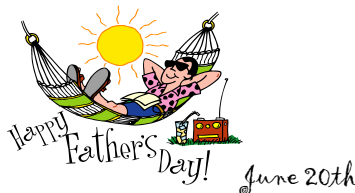
How Are We Doing???

For the Month of May (May 2nd-23rd)

(Computers Connected During ZOOM + People Attending In-Person Worship)

Average Weekly Attendance: 42

Monthly Offering: \$ 8,151.00





Ink Cartridge Recycling

Thank you for recycling your used ink cartridges. Keep those cartridges coming! A list of cartridges eligible for recycling can be found at tonerbuyer.com and empties4cash.com.

Donate to Your Church by Shopping at Smile.Amazon

You can increase donations for First Presbyterian Church of Sussex by shopping at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2422961>. You shop as you normally would on the site, at no extra cost to you, and you don't need to make a separate account. AmazonSmile is a program that donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. **IT IS EASY.** Your selection of items will not be limited by using smile.amazon when you shop. Though 0.5% is not a large donation, and it isn't intended to replace your regular charitable activities, AmazonSmile is still a great way to take advantage of a service you're using anyway. Thank you for considering this simple way to help our church. Every little bit helps.



Prayer Shawl Ministry



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry has been sending prayers and love in the form of beautiful knitted, crocheted, or quilted shawls to people in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual comfort. The shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient, and keeps these thoughts in mind throughout the creative process. Our shawls are delivered with a message expressing the feelings of love and comfort with which they were made. If you know anyone who could benefit from a prayer shawl, please call Nancy (973-875-9156) or see her after worship. If you would like to create these beautiful shawls, a 20 x 60-inch rectangular shawl requires five skeins of yarn. If you don't knit, crochet, or sew, or don't have the time, you can purchase yarn or donate funds for materials.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Please pray for **Linda DeGroat, Marlene Decker, Frank Del Sardo Sr., Frank Del Sardo Jr., Kathy Dyer, the Enhoffer Family, Bob & Donna Gibson, Rev. Bruce Gillette & his family, Phil Hardin, Mary Alice Hosking, Kara & Patti Jacobs, Ralph Miller, and Shirley Prall** (Ivy Diorio's friend). Please let the Deacons or the office know who to add and who to remove. **Thank you!**



Prayers of the People E-mail

Pastor Katherine sends out a weekly email with the prayer requests lifted up in worship. If you would like to receive this e-mail, please contact the church office.

Deacons' Fund Offering

A part of the Deacons' ministry is our monthly Deacons' Fund Offering, which assists charitable, nonprofit organizations. The Board of Deacons would like to thank all those who donated to DASI, our Deacons' Fund recipient for May. The money that was given will be used to provide free, confidential services to victims of domestic and sexual abuse and their families throughout Sussex County. On behalf of all those who are served by DASI, thank you!



Our Deacons' Fund for June will go to Camp Johnsonburg. The Johnsonburg Presbyterian Center is a year-round camp and conference center in northwestern New Jersey. In operation since 1959, Johnsonburg is "a place apart" where people get away from the hustle and bustle of daily life to grow closer to God. Whether you're a youth who attends their summer camp program or weekend youth retreats, an adult participating in spiritual sanctuary events, or a group (church, school, corporate, or other) hosting an event utilizing their facilities, Johnsonburg welcomes you and has a place for you. Please give generously!

Just Plain Change Ministry



I give you a new commandment: Love one another; as I have loved you, so you are to love one another. If there is love among you, then all will know that you are my disciples. - John 13:34-35

Please remember to empty your pockets/ purses to help our neighbors in need. Listen to your neighbor, your co-workers, your friends, cashiers at the places where you eat or shop and/or the waitresses where you eat. If you find a need to cheer or support, write down your suggestion on a slip of paper. Put it in the jar in the back of the sanctuary or contact any Deacon. **You can also mail in your donation to Janet Hayzler.**

Yes, your quarters, dimes, and pennies do make a difference in the lives of those around us!

Small Change Suggestion (The suggested amount limit is \$50.)

Recipient/situation: _____

Contact information (name, address, phone #): _____

Your name (optional): _____

How do you want to have the "gift" delivered? (By yourself or by a member of the committee? Or other suggestion?): _____

Please continue to listen to your neighbor, classmate, and community members, as each has a story to tell. If we at the First Presbyterian Church of Sussex can help, let someone on the Board of Deacons or Sharon Bove or Pastor Katherine know. There are also papers on the back table in the sanctuary that can be filled out and placed in the glass jar. **Do you know of someone who needs a little boost?**

Liturgists Needed

Mike Kosco, chair of the Worship & Sacrament Committee, is looking for people to serve as liturgists. You can be liturgist in church or at home on the ZOOM platform. If you have done it before, or even if you haven't (Mike will train newbies!), please contact him at 973-600-2386, or see him after worship on Sundays.



It's a Girl

Violet Rose Natalizio was born on May 20, 2021. She is the great-granddaughter of Annalies Cosh and granddaughter of Richard and Mary Ann Cosh. Violet joins her parents, Brad and Alicia, and her big brother, Joseph John! Congratulations!



June Birthdays

- (1) Frank Del Sardo, Sr.
- (2) Ava Bilney
- (4) Robert Gibson
- (6) Jacob Vanderwiele
Katie Vanderwiele
- (10) Gary Scymanski
Molly Swarts
- (11) Kathy Carey
- (12) Heath Ziccardi
- (15) Mary Alice Hosking
- (17) Tracy Dekmar
- (20) Joe Barta
- (24) Richard L. Hayzler
- (26) Aven Swarts
- (28) Madelyn Coykendall (102)



Lectionary for the Lord's Day

June 2021

- 6 *2nd Sunday after Pentecost*
Psalm 130; Mark 3:20-35
- 13 *3rd Sunday after Pentecost*
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; Mark 4:26-34
- 20 *4th Sunday after Pentecost*
Psalm 133; Mark 4:35-41
- 27 *5th Sunday after Pentecost*
Psalm 130; Mark 5:21-43



July 2021

- 4 *6th Sunday after Pentecost*
Psalm 48; Mark 6:1-13
- 11 *7th Sunday after Pentecost*
Psalm 24; Mark 6:14-29



Refreshments After Worship

Refreshments are served outdoors only, weather permitting. Please plan to stay after worship and visit with your friends!

Local Food Pantry News

The Sussex Help Center is open from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Wednesdays, and from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Mondays/Fridays. They appreciate all donations, and they especially need dish soap and laundry detergent. Please let Walter Houck know if there is a family in need.



Sussex Elks



Veterans: The Sussex Elks are still collecting needed items for our Veterans, as well as DASI. The Veterans need: body wash, shampoo/conditioner, and toothpaste/toothbrushes. DASI needs: toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, napkins, laundry detergent, Dreft (baby detergent), cleaning products, dish soap, female hygiene products, deodorant, soap, hair-care products, shampoo and conditioner (full size), cereal, canned tuna/chicken, individual snacks, juice boxes, mac & cheese, and soup. Also, small and medium dog/cat food bags, and gift cards for Walmart, Shoprite, and gas in \$10 increments. The following new items are also needed: pillows, twin-size bed sheets, hand towels, larger size women's pajamas, children's pajamas (boys and girls), sweatshirts and sweatpants (XXL), socks, and slippers. Drop-off location: Sussex Elks Lodge #2288. Please leave by the door.

Upcoming Event:

- **September 9-13th** - The Moving Wall at Woodbourne Park.

Contact the Sussex Elks Lodge 2288 at SussexElks2288@gmail.com or they can be found on the Facebook page (Facebook.com/SussexLodge2288).



Our Church Sign

(Thank You Phil Hardin)

