



First Presbyterian Church of Sussex PRESBYTERIAN PRESS

21 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07461

June 2023

Session Highlights



Session met on May 23rd. The following items were discussed:

- A thank you to Rev. David Young who presided as Moderator in the absence of Pastor Katherine Moderator.
- The Deacons reported the continuing need to send cards for birthdays and joys and concerns.
- The Deacons are working on a plan for a Craft Night starting in September.
- The Session Minutes Review packet has been sent to Presbytery for review.
- The acrylic window covering on the front window has been completed.
- A Spring Clean-up Day was held on May 6th.
- Please continue to keep up with your offerings during the summer months.
- A light lunch will be provided on **June 20th** as an opportunity to meet Marlena, Pastor Katherine's daughter.
- An average of 44 people have been attending church services in church and on ZOOM.
- Communion Sunday for June will be held on June 18th, when Rev. Barry Young will be our guest preacher.
- Church services for **July 2 through August 27, 2023**, will begin at 9:30 a.m. instead of 10:30 a.m.
- The next regular Session meeting will be held on **Tuesday, July 18, 2023**, at 6:30 p.m., on the ZOOM platform.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Bates, Clerk of Session

Pastoral Care

Pastor Katherine will be on Maternity Leave **through June 30th**. Please call the church office or Nancy Barta with any pastoral concerns.



You're Invited



You're Invited!

The Hospitality Committee has invited Pastor Katherine to bring Marlena and join us for a light lunch on **Tuesday, June 20th**, at 11:30 a.m. The lunch will be served in the Nursery/Kitchen. We are excited to give our church family and friends this opportunity to meet Marlena. If you would like to attend, please call Penny at 973-764-3781 (home) or 201-452-5082 (cell).

How Are We Doing???

For the Month of May

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

Average Weekly Attendance: 44



Pentecost Offering

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Pentecost Offering, which was collected on May 21st and May 28th (Pentecost Sunday).

Sunday School News

Sunday school runs from 9:30 – 10:15 a.m., for Pre-K through Adult, September through June. Please see Ashley Ziccardi if you have any questions.

Our end of the year program will be held during our worship service on **Sunday, June 11th**. Please mark your calendars so you won't miss this special event!



Summer Worship Schedule

Beginning **Sunday, July 2nd**, our worship service starts at 9:30 a.m. **through August 27th**. Please mark your calendar so you won't miss it!!

News of Missionaries The Callisons

Our church is sending a donation to the Callisons for the work they do. If you would like to contribute, please send your donations to our Depositing Treasurer, Janet Hayzler, at 96 Holland Road, Wantage, NJ 07461. Checks should be made payable to *The First Presbyterian Church of Sussex*. Please put *Missionaries* on the memo line. Thank you!



Greg and Christine Callison are both Presbyterian ministers working in the north of Iraq, in the Kurdistan region, in a ministry of witness and service to Kurds, mostly of Muslim background. This is a ministry similar to what the Callisons did for many years among the Kurdish refugee and immigrant population of Berlin, Germany.

The Kurds are one of the largest people groups in the world without a country of their own, and, more importantly, without a church indigenous to their culture. The Callisons' work is "Great

Commission” frontier mission work among unreached peoples. Unreached people groups are ethnic groups that do not yet have a church movement in their own language and culture.

Presbyterians have long been interested in the Kurds. After their work ended in the Kurdish homelands of eastern Turkey, northeastern Syria, and lastly, in 1969, in northwestern Iraq, in the mid-1980s, the PC(USA) began to look for where ministry could continue among Kurds in exile. It was discovered that there are half a million Kurds in Germany, with the majority coming from Turkey. The German government invited most of them to come to Germany when they experienced their economic boom and wanted cheap labor. Thus, the Callisons were invited to work in partnership with the German Evangelical (Protestant) Church to engage in a holistic outreach to the Kurdish community there. In 2010, with an invitation from the Iraqi Presbyterian Church, the time seemed right for the work to return there.

Christine was ordained and commissioned for service among Kurds in Berlin in 1987. She brings to this special ministry a unique background of education and experience. A native of Maryland, she earned her undergraduate degree in music education from the University of Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Her M.Div. degree is from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois, where in 1986 she was honored with the seminary’s Preaching Award. She is a member of Chicago Presbytery. She earned a German language diploma from the Goethe Institute in Cincinnati and West Germany and studied Kurdish at the Freie Universitat/Berlin. She also taught music in the public schools of Cincinnati, Ohio; taught piano and directed choirs in Cincinnati and Chicago; worked for three years in Europe with Campus Crusade for Christ’s music ministry; and directed the senior high program for the Village Presbyterian Church in Northbrook, Illinois.

Of her own faith journey, Christine writes, "As a Christian, I see myself as living every moment of every day by the grace of God - that every breath I breathe, everything I see, hear, taste and am able to do is by God's grace. That a naturally independent sheep like me would be so loved and guided by the Shepherd fills me with unspeakable awe and thankfulness. Life abundant and eternal, what a gift of pure grace, utterly undeserved!" (Chris' birthday is June 30.)

Greg came to this ministry with ten years of pastoral experience in the U.S. He and Christine were married September 2, 1995, after which he was appointed to join in the ministry in Berlin. Greg also had a special interest in the Kurdish people. After the Persian Gulf War in 1991, the church he pastored in Columbus, Ohio made the General Assembly "Commitment to Share Good News," thus "adopting" the Kurds as a special focus for ministry and prayer. His congregation helped a Kurdish family that had fled from the war to resettle in Columbus, and later, hosted a Kurd from Berlin needing to improve his English. In 1992, Greg went to London, England to visit a Presbyterian ministry among the 10,000 Kurds there. During that trip he also went to Berlin, Germany where he first met Christine. The following year Greg went to Kurdistan (eastern Turkey and northern Iraq) to see first-hand part of the Kurdish homeland. In 1995, he was employed by the Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship and traveled around the U.S. sharing about the frontier mission work of the Presbyterian Church.

Greg is a graduate of Westmont College, Santa Barbara, California and obtained his M.Div. from Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California. For five years he served as an associate pastor in the Dallas, Texas area, followed by five years pastoring a church in Columbus, Ohio. He is a member of Scioto Valley Presbytery.

Greg describes himself as one "... truly surprised by joy. That this small town boy should be living first in Berlin, Germany, and now in Iraq, reaching out to one of the world's great and fascinating peoples, the Kurds, is a wonder of God's grace. What motivates me is the desire to see Kurds share that same joy, which we know because of Christ. And for Chris and me, the 'icing on the cake' is that we are privileged to share in this ministry with so many wonderful Presbyterians in churches of all sizes across the U.S." (Greg's birthday is December 10.)

The Callisons maintain the Presbyterian Kurdish Network website (www.KNetwork.info - password secured) where they provide lots of promotional materials and information. To request access to the website, please write the Callisons at gregandchris@callison.net.

Spring Clean-Up Day

The Buildings & Grounds would like to thank everyone who came out to help during our Spring Clean-Up Day! Check out the pictures below to see the work that was done!





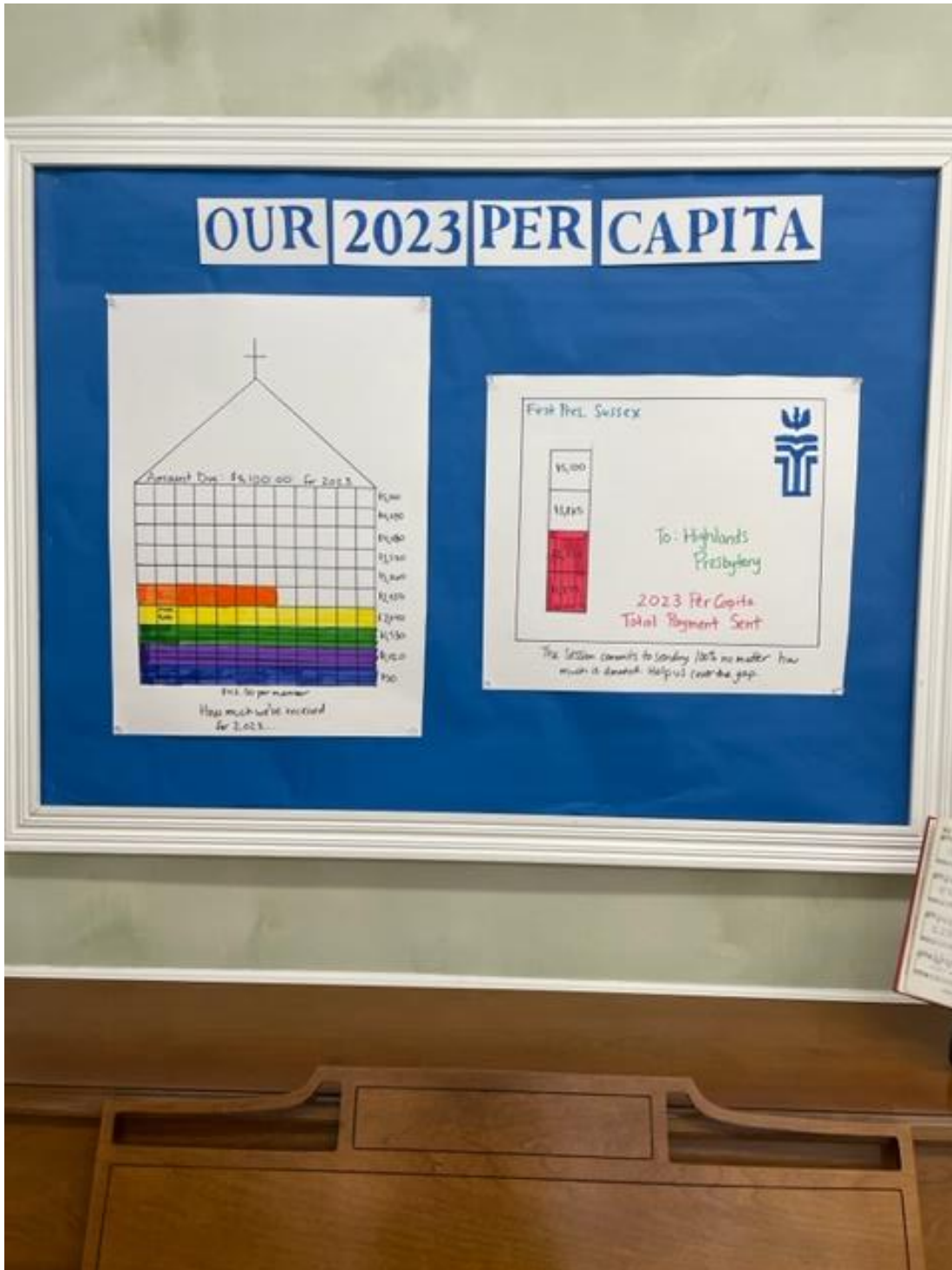
FLAG DAY
JUNE 14TH

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 2023, each member's contribution is \$42.50.

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. See the bulletin board display in the fellowship room.



Refreshments After Worship

Refreshments are served in the fellowship room. We've purchased an air purifier to help keep us all safe during our time together. Please sign up to bring in goodies on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please call Penny Bates if you have any questions.



From the Finance Committee



Be a Faithful Steward

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.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Please pray for **Josephine Bonanno** (Evelyn Haggard's friend), **Madelyn Coykendall, Judy & George Clark, Frank Del Sardo, Jr., Pam Fielding, Bob & Donna Gibson, Rev. Bruce Gillette & Family, Evelyn Haggard, Charlie & Dodi Lain, Betty Martin, Kenneth Van Wageninge** (Carolyn's brother), **Pat Walker, Lois Wright, and Barbara Young**. 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.

Our Deacons' Fund recipient for June is Harvest House. Harvest House is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Harvest House employs one part-time kitchen manager who, with the help of volunteers, serves 40-50 meals per day. Their mission is to provide a nourishing midday meal to fill the physical and emotional needs of an underserved population in the northern section of Sussex County. Harvest House provides a clean, safe, and welcoming environment which is easily accessible to those they serve. Please give generously to our monthly Deacons' Funds!



Prayer Shawl Ministry

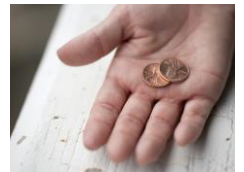


Prayer Shawl Ministry

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 Janet (973-875-9252) 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.

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?**



June 18th



June Birthdays

- (1) Frank Del Sardo, Sr.
- (4) Robert Gibson
- (6) Jacob Vanderwiele
Katie Vanderwiele
- (10) Gary Scymanski
Molly Swarts
- (11) Kathy Carey
- (12) Heath Ziccardi
- (15) Mary Alice Hosking
- (20) Joe Barta
- (24) Richard L. Hayzler
- (26) Aven Swarts
- (28) Madelyn Coykendall (104)



Lectionary for the Lord's Day

June 2023

- 4 **Trinity Sunday**
Psalm 8:2; Matthew 28:16-20
- 11 **2nd Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 33:1-12; John 20:19-31
- 18 **3rd Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Matthew 9:35—10:8 (9-23)
- 25 **4th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Matthew 10:24-39



July 2023

- 2 **5th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Matthew 10:40-42
- 9 **6th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 45:10-17; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
- 16 **7th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 119:105-112; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
- 23 **8th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
- 30 **9th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 105:1-11; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



Can You Help?



Mike Kosco, Chair of the Worship & Sacraments Committee, is looking for people to serve as liturgists and ushers. 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, please contact him at 973-875-7412, or see him after worship on Sundays. Communion preparers and servers are also needed. A schedule (*through June*) of liturgists, ushers, communion preparers, and communion servers is listed below. **If you cannot volunteer on your scheduled date, please "swap" a date with someone else and notify Sharon Bove at 875-4760. Thank you!**

Schedule of Liturgists

June 4 th	Janet Hayzler
June 11 th	Betsy Sives
June 18 th	Walter Houck
June 25 th	Sheryl Dekmar
July 2 nd	Mike Kosco
July 9 th	Sheryl Dekmar
July 16 th	Richard L. Hayzler
July 23 rd	Mike Kosco
July 30 th	Janet Hayzler



Schedule of Communion Preparers and Servers

Preparers

July 2nd – Ashley Ziccardi
August 6th – Chris Sarno

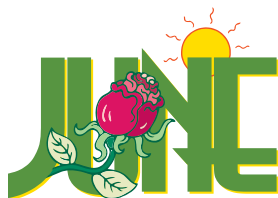
Servers

July 2nd – Joanne Cosh & Sheryl Dekmar
August 6th – Walter Houck & Paulette Touw

Schedule of Ushers



June 4 th	Sheryl Dekmar & Richard L. Hayzler
June 11 th	Sunday School Children
June 18 th	Mary Alice Hosking & Niki Lepes
June 25 th	Ken Enhoffer & Phil Hardin
July 2 nd	Chris & Chuck Sarno
July 9 th	Kyle DeGroat & Betsy Sives
July 16 th	Kathy Carey & Joanne Cosh
July 23 rd	Sheryl Dekmar & Ken Enhoffer
July 30 th	Paulette Touw & Ashley Ziccardi



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 23rd**: 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!



Local Food Pantry News



The Sussex Help Center is open from 10:00-11:00 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays; and 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Fridays. They appreciate all donations. Please let Walter Houck know if there is a family in need.

Our Church Sign

(Thank You Phil Hardin, with help from Richard L. Hayzler)

