



First Presbyterian Church of Sussex
PRESBYTERIAN
PRESS

21 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07461

October 2022

From the Pastor's Desk....

Dear Friends and Members!

Sometimes it feels like the world is coming at us so quickly that we don't know which way to turn, where to look, what to do next. In a chaotic world, we find strength in knowing that no matter what, God is always with us. We wonder how we can live into Isaiah's call that we are to *"go out in joy and be led forth in peace"* (Isaiah 55:12).

This is why I'm grateful for our commemoration of *A Season of Peace* culminating with the Peace & Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday, October 2, 2022. In a time when violence and war seem to be coming at us from all sides, the ministries of peacemaking and reconciliation witness to Jesus, the Prince of Peace. It is good to be reminded that with all the discord, pain and conflict in our communities and in the world, we serve a God who promises harmony and responds to violence with reconciliation and peace.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering draws Presbyterians together and provides education and exposure to siblings in Christ who are doing this work every day. Your support of the offering has helped support our church partners in Lebanon recover emotionally from the trauma after a bombing in Beirut. It has helped congregations begin to address the growing mental health crisis and the increase in number of suicides in their communities. It provides resources for congregations seeking to address issues of gun violence in their communities.

This is why we give generously to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. We give because we know that every level of society needs Christ's peace. From our congregation, where we retain 25% of this offering to support peace and its important role in our community; to the region, where 25% is retained by our Presbytery and Synod to support peacemaking efforts with our neighboring congregations; and to the ends of the earth, where the remaining 50% is deployed by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to join the peacemaking efforts of church partners all over the globe. We join these monetary gifts with our prayers for peace and our work for justice.

You are invited to visit the Peace & Global Witness website <https://presbyterianmission.org/peace-global> to learn how your support of this offering helps peacemaking efforts both in the U.S. and around the world. As a community of faith, we want to deepen our commitment to peacemaking so that it becomes a visible and profound witness to our community. I challenge each of us to consider how we might increase our witness and increase our giving to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. I pray that the God of Peace might open the generosity in our hearts to join with Christians all over the country on World Communion Sunday, October 2nd, in response to the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

As Presbyterians, we claim Jesus Christ as Prince of Peace and pattern our lives in the compassion, kindness, and grace that he shows us. May we joyfully bring that peace to all those we care for, love, and serve.

In Christ,

Pastor Katherine Scott-Kirschner

(973) 771-4721 (cell)



Session Highlights



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

- The Deacons are participating in Wantage Day on October 8, 2022. There are activities for children and handouts. Hopefully, this will advertise our church.
- Active membership is recorded at 102.
- The Presbyterian Women's Group will hold their Indoor Yard Sale **October 21-22, 2022**. Donations can be left starting on **October 16, 2022**.
- Julie Scott, Pastor Katherine's mother, has returned to the manse. She has expressed her gratitude to the congregation in her time of need.
- The Per Capita for 2023 has been established by Presbytery at \$42.50 per member.
- Thank you to everyone who brought in food and "goodies" during fellowship hour throughout the summer. Please continue to sign up to help supply food products for fellowship hour after worship.
- The Presbytery has established grant money for updating the church's technical equipment. In order to get the money, we have to apply for it.
- Efforts were discussed to clean up the front picture window of the church.
- Home schooling will occur in our church one day/week for approximately three hours.
- A local cleaning service/person is still needed to clean our church. If you know of a person or company, please call Charles Bates (201-787-1308).
- Thank you to all! Our parking lot has been paved and lined. Thanks to Richard Cosh and his crew!
- Please give generously to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Our church gets to keep 25% of what is collected.
- Worship & Sacraments Committee is looking for ordained Elders and Deacons to serve communion on a rotational basis. Please let Mike Kosco or the church know if you are interested.
- Pastor Katherine will be advertising the basketball hoop in our parking lot on the Market Place site. If you are interested, it is on a first-come basis. No offer will be turned down.
- The next regular Session meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 20, 2022**, at 6:30 p.m., on the ZOOM platform.
- The Annual Joint Meeting of Elders and Deacons will be held on **Sunday, September 25, 2022**, at 11:30 a.m., at the church.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Bates, Clerk to Session

Mark Your Calendars



The next regular Deacons' meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 4th**, 7:00 p.m., on ZOOM; the next regular Session meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 18th**, 6:30 p.m., on ZOOM.

Fall Back

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on **Saturday, November 5th**, before you go to bed so you won't miss worship. Daylight Saving Time ends **Sunday, November 6th**.



Church Parking Lot Repaving & Lining

Our church parking lot was repaved and lined! Thank you to everyone who donated to our campaign! Your generosity means so much! Thank you to Richard Cosh and his crew for the wonderful job they did in a timely manner!





Indoor Yard Sale



The Presbyterian Women's Group of the First Presbyterian Church of Sussex is holding their Indoor Yard Sale on **Friday, October 21st, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, October 22nd, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** We will start accepting items on **Sunday, October 16th, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., through Thursday, October 20th, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** We will need people to help on all the days starting with **October 16th through October 22nd.** There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Besides bringing in your items for sale, a few things you might be able to help us with are: saving boxes (with lids), plastic and paper bags (I know these are not readily available), and newspaper for packing items. Packing tape is also needed to tape the boxes with the leftover items. Please remember that we cannot start taking items until after church on **Sunday, October 16th.** We appreciate your helping us in any way you are able.

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.



Peace & Global Witness Offering

The Peace & Global Witness Offering was received on World Communion Sunday, October 2nd. Please donate if you haven't already done so. You can put in the collection plate on Sunday or mail it Janet Hayzler, 96 Holland Road, Wantage, NJ 07461, with "P&G Witness Offering" on the memo line. We will get to keep 25% of this offering for our congregation's peacemaking ministries. Please give generously!

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.



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.

Worshiping In Person Update

The church leadership voted that masks will be optional for those vaccinated; for those not vaccinated, it is strongly recommended that masks continue to be worn. Child care in the nursery has resumed.



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.

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.



Congratulations

Ann Cosh is happy to announce the birth of a great-grandson. On August 15, 2022, Jonah Clark Howell was born. Jonah is the brother of Sophia and son of Joshua and Sonja Howell.



Donna Gibson celebrated a milestone birthday with family and friends on September 10, 2022 at High Point State Park.



Anniversaries

Jason & Kristin Touw celebrated their 6th wedding anniversary on October 1st; Eric & Betsy Sives celebrated their 34th wedding anniversary on October 2nd; and Charles & Penny Bates celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary on October 3rd. Congratulations!



How Are We Doing???

For the Month of September

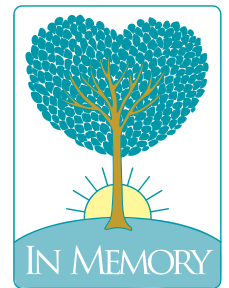
(Computers Connected During ZOOM + People Attending In-Person Worship)



Average Weekly Attendance: 37
Monthly Offering: \$ 8,194

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Friend of our church, Doris Book, passed away on September 9, 2022. Doris was always volunteering to help out with our various projects, even though she wasn't a member. Prayers to her family and friends.



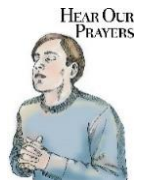
In Our Thoughts & Prayers



Please pray **Frank Del Sardo Jr., Bob & Donna Gibson, Evelyn Haggard, Mike Kosco, Betty Martin, Rev. Tim Marvil, and Kenneth Van Wageninge** (Carolyn's brother); and the **family of Ralph Miller**. 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.



The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

- Luke 17:5-6

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 Ginnie's House, our Deacons' Fund recipient for September.

Our Deacons' Fund for October will go to Family Promise of Sussex County. Through Family Promise, a network of volunteers from local congregations provides shelter, meals, and support services to families and single women who are homeless. Homeless families can stay together where they feel safe, and receive assistance in finding affordable, permanent housing. Our church is one of many in the area that hosts these families and makes them feel welcome and cared for during a difficult time. Please give generously!

Deacon of the Month

When Pastor Katherine is not available or needs assistance, the following Deacon will be on call for the month of October – Janet Hayzler.



Care Package Ministry



Please e-mail the church ASAP at sussexpresbyterian@embarqmail.com with names and addresses, even if it's the same as last year, of our college students (full-time, part-time, away or local, degree, undergrad, or advanced, etc.), using "Care Package Ministry" in the subject line. We will be collecting items, in quantities of 15, to be sent to our college students. Regardless of home or away, we want to show them our support. Suggested items include: cookies, candies, mints, gum, chips, popcorn, flashlights, toothbrush/ paste, post-its, etc. If you don't have time to shop, cash donations are appreciated as well, and the items will be bought for you. Also, monetary donations will help with the cost for mailing the boxes. Please send your check payable to "First Presbyterian Church of Sussex" to Janet Hayzler, 96 Holland Road, Wantage, NJ 07461, with "Care Package" on the memo line. Thank you for your help with this project. Any questions, please see Janet Hayzler. (If students are distance learning from home, please let us know.)

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?**



October Birthdays

- (16) Paulette Touw
- (18) Madison Hayzler
- (20) Sharon Alheidt
- (23) Kara Jacobs
- (31) David Wright



**Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise.**

- Psalm 66:1-2

Lectionary for the Lord's Day

October 2022

- 2 **17th Sunday after Pentecost – World Communion Sunday**
Psalm 137; Luke 17:5-10
- 9 **18th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 66:1-12; Luke 17:11-19
- 16 **19th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 119:97-104; Luke 18:1-8
- 23 **20th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 65; Luke 18:9-14
- 30 **21st Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 119:137-144; Luke 19:1-10



November 2022

- 6 **22nd Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21; Luke 20:27-38
- 13 **23rd Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 98; Luke 21:5-19

Liturgists Needed



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. A schedule (through November 13th) of liturgists and ushers 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

October 9 th	Walter Houck
October 16 th	Sheryl Dekmar
October 23 rd	Richard L. Hayzler
October 30 th	Penny Bates
November 6 th	Mike Kosco
November 13 th	Janet Hayzler



Schedule of Ushers

October 9 th	Kyle DeGroat & Ken Enhoffer
October 16 th	Charles & Penny Bates
October 23 rd	Sheryl Dekmar & Janet Hayzler
October 30 th	Phil Hardin & Rixhard L. Hayzler
November 6 th	Niki Lepas & Paulette Touw
November 13 th	Betsy Sives & Ashley Ziccardi



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 everything. 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.

Presbyterian Women News

Presbytery of the Highlands' Presbyterian Women's Fall Retreat will be held on **Saturday, November 5th**, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Shrine of St. Joseph in Stirling, NJ. The Retreat will be led by Amy Clarkson and Lorelei Oelschlager. Coffee and lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Jane MacDonald JKMAC3536@GMAIL.COM by **November 1st**. Cost: \$40 – send a non-refundable check payable to PW in the Presbytery of the Highlands to Jane MacDonald, 35 Hillside Avenue, Newton, NJ 07860. Scholarships are available upon request—send to Jane MacDonald (email above) for the form. Hope you can join us!



Our Church Sign

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

