



First Presbyterian Church of Sussex
PRESBYTERIAN
PRESS

21 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07461

September 2020

Session Highlights

Session met on July 21st. The following items were discussed:



- Introductions were made of Rev. David Harvey from the First Presbyterian Church of Blairstown, who will be our Moderator; Rev. Jeanne Radak will be our temporary liaison from Presbytery. They will guide us through the process of getting a new minister for the church.
- Our church continues to hold church services on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. via the ZOOM platform. Please call the church office for the “invitation” if you don’t already get one.
- Ruling Elder Rob Hayzler continues to request the need for two Elders and one Deacon.
- The following people will provide messages on Sundays through July and August via the ZOOM platform: Richard M. Hayzler – July 26th, Unknown – August 2nd, John Winsted – August 9th; Charles Bates – August 16th, Walter Houck – August 23rd, and Mike Kosco – August 30th.
- Wilma Elder has moved to North Carolina to be with her family.
- The next Session meeting will be held online on Tuesday, August 18, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Session met on August 18th. The following items were discussed:

- Rev. Dr. Patrick Sileo, our Presbytery Liaison, led us through the preliminary paperwork necessary for requesting Presbytery to look for a covenant supply pastor for our church.
- Session developed a plan for the re-entry of our church. This plan has been approved. The re-entry date for our church will be **September 27, 2020**, at 10:30 a.m.
- The Presbyterian Women’s Group has cancelled their Indoor Yard Sale for this year.
- Landscaping issues at the property of our church are being taken care of. Monitoring of the manse continues. A clean-up day will be scheduled in the fall.
- Carolyn and Art Van Houten’s daughter, Karen, will be joined in marriage in our church on **October 10, 2020**. Charles Bates will officiate.
- The next Session meeting will be held online on **Tuesday, September 15, 2020**, at 6:30 p.m.



Summer Worship Schedule



Beginning **this Sunday, September 6th**, our worship service returns to 10:30 a.m. Please mark your calendar so you won't miss it!! We will continue to use ZOOM for our worship services **through September 20th**. Starting **September 27th**, we will be worshipping back in church! Our worship service will also be on ZOOM for those who are not ready for in-church worship.

Re-Entry to First Presbyterian Church of Sussex

Please be aware that **Sunday, September 27, 2020**, 10:30 a.m., is the day for our church members and friends to re-enter our church. Please follow the format for re-entry that the Session has laid out. The use of the ZOOM platform will continue if you feel more comfortable watching from home.



1. There will be ushers at each of the doors. The ushers will direct you to your pew. The total number present cannot be more than 45, including participants (as of this writing).
2. Please enter the church nearest your pew. Please leave following the service using the door nearest your pew.
3. Bulletins and offering plates will be at each door for you to pick up and for giving.
4. No Bibles or hymnals will be available. All information and hymns will be listed in the bulletin (no congregational singing).
5. Sharing of the Peace will be performed at your pew. No handshaking or embracing.
6. Masks will be required at all times in the church. This is a recommendation from our insurance company and Newton Presbytery.
7. Masks and hand sanitizers will be available at the doors for your use if needed.
8. There will be no fellowship hour.

- The Session of the FPC of Sussex

From the Finance Committee



Even though we are not having worship here at the church, bills still need to be paid. 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.

Mark Your Calendars

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



Sunday School News



Sunday School is going to meet on **Sunday, September 13th** and **Sunday, October 11th**, 12:00 noon, at Woodbourne Park in Wantage. We will meet for a picnic lunch, Bible story, and activity. Children of all ages are invited. There is plenty of room to spread out if needed. Please let Ashley Ziccardi know a week before so she can plan accordingly.

How Are We Doing???

For the Months of July & August

(computers connected during ZOOM + Worship Leaders)

Average Weekly Attendance:	25
Monthly Offering (July):	\$ 6,906
Monthly Offering (August):	\$ 7,527



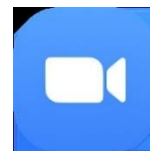
Presbyterian Women's Group



The Presbyterian Women's Group has decided that due to the Covid-19, we will not hold our Indoor Yard Sale this October. We feel that it would not be in the best interest of our workers or our buyers to hold it at this time. We are very hopeful that we will be able to hold our sale sometime next year (maybe even in the spring to help all of us clean out our extras!). Please stay safe and well!

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**.



Church Website



Check out our church's website at www.sussexpresbyterian.org ! You will be able to see current and past newsletters, church events, and more! Thank you to Sheryl Dekmar for setting up our new and improved website!

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.



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 .

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 everyone who donated to People Help in July and Local Share in August.

Our Deacons' Fund for September will go to Ginnie's House. Ginnie's House Children's Advocacy Center was opened in the spring of 1998 and is situated in the center of the Town of Newton. The Center is in the historic Park Building, located near the Sussex County Prosecutor's Office, Sussex District Office of the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services, Sussex County Judicial Complex, Sussex County Sheriff's Office, and other human services agencies. The building was made available and is maintained by the Sussex County Board of Chosen Freeholders. The Center is available to children in Sussex County who may have been sexually or physically abused, assaulted, or witnessed a violent crime, including domestic violence. It provides a safe, child-friendly environment for child abuse investigations and treatment. It also provides a multi-disciplinary team response to child abuse allegations, working with child abuse victims and other community service providers that include: Law Enforcement, Child Protective Services, Medical & Mental Health Professionals, Victim Advocates, and Social Service providers, to enhance services to child abuse victims and their families. Please give generously!



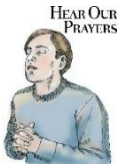
Care Package Ministry



It's that time of year again! Students are back to school, and the Deacons will again be collecting items to send to our college students around the time of their exams for the fall semester. So that we have an accurate count, please send the names and addresses of your college student, undergraduate, graduate, part-time or full-time, to Nancy Barta at jbarta@embarqmail.com or to the church office. Our students really appreciate the packages, which show them how much our church family thinks of them and supports them through a busy and trying time at school! Thank you! (If students are distance learning from home, please let us know.)

Prayers of the People E-mail

Janet Hayzler 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.



In Our Thoughts & Prayers



Please pray for **Charlie Bates, Bill Davis** (John Davis' brother), **Marlene Decker, Beth-Ann Enhoffer, Bob Gibson, Rev. Bruce Gillette & his family, Phil Hardin, Mary Alice Hosking, Shirley Prall** (Ivy Diorio's friend), **Tonhild Schanstra** (Betty Scymanski's mom), and **Ken Van Wageninge** (Carolyn Van Houten's brother); and the families of **Ernie Elder, Tommy Emma** (Lisa Emma's husband), & **Betty Pluymers**. Please let the Deacons or the office know who to add and who to remove. **Thank you!**

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.



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 Amy 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?

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.

- Acts 4:32



Lectionary for the Lord's Day

September 2020

- 6 **14th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 149; Matthew 18:15-20
- 13 **15th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 114; Matthew 18:21-35
- 20 **16th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Matthew 20:1-16
- 27 **17th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Matthew 21:23-32



October 2020

- 4 **18th Sunday after Pentecost – World Communion Sunday**
Psalm 19; Matthew 21:33-46
- 11 **19th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Matthew 22:1-14
- 18 **20th Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 99; Matthew 22:15-22
- 25 **21st Sunday after Pentecost**
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; Matthew 22:34-46



Peace & Global Witness Offering

Our next special offering will be the Peace & Global Witness Offering, which will be received on World Communion Sunday, **October 4th**. We will get to keep 25% of this offering for our congregation's peacemaking ministries. Please give generously!

Presbyterian Women's Gatherings

Fall Gathering: The Fall Gathering will be held on **Saturday, October 11th**, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the First Presbyterian Church of Newton. Speakers: Jenny Lee, Moderator, PW Churchwide, "Becoming a Caring Community of New Jerseyites"; and JoAnn Burrell, Vice Moderator, PW Churchwide, "Mission – What PW is Doing". Please bring a non-perishable item for the local Food Bank (pasta/sauce, canned stew, soup, etc.). Refreshments and a light lunch will be available. Masks and social distancing will be observed. Please use parking lot door to enter.



Triennial Gathering: "Empowered to Serve" will be held **Friday, October 30th to Saturday, October 31st**. This event will be held virtually. Please call 1-585-526-5841 for more information, or email danvirginia@aol.com .

September Birthdays

- (3) Jim Barta
Julie Tremont
- (4) Tom Madsen
William Smisko
- (8) Patti Jacobs
Owen Touw
- (9) Suzanne Hunt (90th)
Chuck Sarno
- (10) Aiden Losey
- (11) Kelsey Higgins
Richard Klein
- (20) Gerry VanderHart
- (21) John Davis
- (23) Betty Scymanski
- (24) Carolyn Van Houten
- (25) Skyler Sarno
Sheila Stormes
- (26) Beth-Ann Enhoffer
- (28) Dale Boyd
- (29) Katie Carbone



Local Food Pantry News



The Sussex Help Center is open from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Fridays, and from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Mondays and Saturdays. They need cereal. The Church of the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Wantage needs food donations. Right now they especially need cereals (like Wheaties, Cheerios, and Raisin Bran), pasta and sauces, canned vegetables and fruits, and soups. They are open for drop-offs between 9:00 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They are currently serving about 200 families. If you know of a family in need, please contact Walter Houck ([973-875-7412](tel:973-875-7412)). **Thank you for your support!**



From Our Church Sign

Thank you to Phil Hardin!

