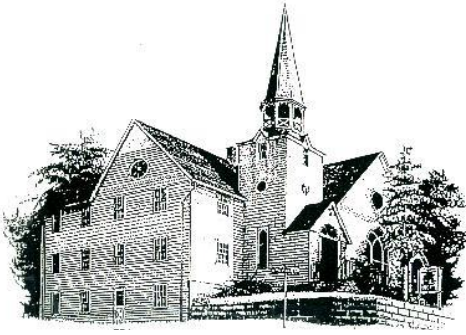


First Presbyterian Church of Sussex  
**PRESBYTERIAN**  
**PRESS**



21 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07461

Summer 2020

## From Pastor Amy's Desk....

*We make our own plans, but the LORD decides where we will go.*  
(Proverbs 16:9 – Contemporary English Version)



The Rev. Jeanne Radak, the Presbytery Leader, is fond of asking the question, “What did you learn?” I find myself asking this question as we transition from the immediate crisis of the COVID pandemic to the next season of this global pandemic. I am sure each of us has learned one or two or ten things from this experience.

I have learned the following about this church. I have learned that you, the members and friends of the First Presbyterian Church of Sussex, are more willing to try new things and be adaptive than I gave you credit for. I am so proud and happy with how well we have adapted to the new realities this pandemic has thrown at us. I might have suggested we use ZOOM as a way to gather while we were mandated to stay in our homes, but it was you who embraced the technology. It was you who created a supportive, loving, faithful community on ZOOM. The successes we have had the last several months, is all you.

As you enter this season of transition, hold onto this openness to try new things and to experiment with new ways of doing things, as this will continue to serve you well. Continue to explore and experiment with ways to stay united, while for the health and well-being of many, we need to keep physically distant.

It has been an honor to be your pastor these last six years and two months. Thank you for opening your hearts to me and sharing your lives with me. Each one of you has left an indelible imprint on my life that will stay with me forever. May the steadfast love of God continue to surround you. May the transforming life of Jesus fill you. May you deeply feel the gracious gift of the Holy Spirit empowering you to continue the mission God has given you.

Your Partner in Christ's Service,

*Pastor Amy*

## Session Highlights

Session met on June 16<sup>th</sup>. The following items were discussed:



- We currently have an active membership of 123.
- 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.
- The Newton Presbytery is mandating a re-entry plan from every church. A date to re-enter is also part of the plan.
- Sharon Bove will set up a ZOOM account for the church for use after Pastor Amy leaves.
- Session has accepted the Confirmation Class (Lydia Alheidt, Abigail Eckert, and Brian Lewis) as members of our church family.
- Ashley Ziccardi was thanked for her excellent video on the Sunday School students shown on June 7<sup>th</sup> during our church service.
- The monies for Pastor Amy’s sabbatical will be placed in the General Operating Fund, since she has accepted a call to another church.
- Rev. Barry Young will preach and help with communion on **Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>**, at 10:30 a.m., via the ZOOM platform. We will start our summer worship at 9:30 a.m. starting **July 12<sup>th</sup>**.
- Session will meet with the Deacons on, **Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. The next regular Session meeting will be held online on **Tuesday, July 21, 2020**, at 6:30 p.m.

## 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 now have online giving!** There is a 'donate here' link on our website, [www.sussexpresbyterian.org](http://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. Please contact the church office.

## Mark Your Calendars

The next regular Session meeting will be held on **Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>**, at 6:30 p.m.; the next regular Deacons’ meeting will be held on **Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>**, 7:00 p.m.



## Summer Worship Schedule

Beginning **Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>**, our worship service starts at 9:30 a.m. through **August 25<sup>th</sup>**. Please mark your calendar so you won’t miss it!!

## 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. Please note the new password, as we have our own account now.



## How Are We Doing???

### For the Months of May & June

*(computers connected during ZOOM)*

Average Weekly Attendance:	35
Monthly Offering (May):	\$ 9,871.00
Monthly Offering (June):	\$ 10,742.00



## Presbyterian Women's Group

We are hoping to have an Indoor Yard Sale in October. Please, as you are cleaning out and sorting during the upcoming months, put aside items that would be appropriate for our sale. Once we are able to have more than ten people gathered indoors (hopefully soon), we can have a meeting to set up our schedule for the rest of 2020. Hoping that all are safe and well. See you soon!



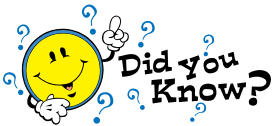
## Thank You

I want to thank those who planned the farewell for Pastor Amy. So glad to be able to say goodbye in person. It was great to see people gathered responsibly by being outdoors, masked, with sanitizer available. Even when gathered in the pavilion, there was plenty of room to be socially distanced. All wore masks and although not all were always six-feet apart, we were outdoors with less risk than indoors. Thank you all who could attend the gathering, and God bless Pastor Amy in her new chapter of service to the Lord and his Church.

Linda DeGroat

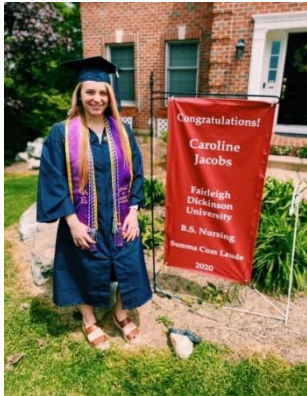
## Free

Cindy O'Donnell is moving and has a pool table and piano for free to whoever can haul it/them away. Please call her at 973-903-8872.





Sarah Fairweather graduated Centenary University in May.



Caroline Jacobs graduated Fairleigh Dickenson University from their nursing program.

Ed Sives graduated from Ramapo College.



Abigail Higgins graduated from Roger Williams University.

Randy Stormes graduated from Stockton University.

Rachel (Stormes) Sullivan graduated with her masters in social work from the University of Pennsylvania.

Sophia Tremont graduated from Scranton University.

Samuel Touw graduated from Minisink High School.



Katie Vanderwiele graduated from Wallkill Valley High School and will attend East Stroudsburg University to study nursing.

Jacob Vanderwiele graduated from Wallkill Valley High School.

Reyes Madera graduated from Wallkill Valley High School. He thanks the church for the gift card!

Eloise Demeter finished third grade and will be going into fourth grade at the Hardyston Elementary School.

Emeline Demeter graduated from preschool at Blessed Beginnings Preschool and will be going into Kindergarten at the Hardyston Elementary School.



August Ziccardi finished kindergarten and will be entering first grade at the Clifton E. Lawrence School in Wantage.

Leah Bischoff, great-niece of Pat Gilman and grandchild of the late Peg Checkur, graduated High Point Regional High School. She will be attending Ramapo College in the fall.

Thomas Bischoff, great-nephew of Pat Gilman and grandchild of the late Peg Checkur, graduated Yale University. He was a member of the varsity rowing crew and was a data analysis and statistics major.



### A Prayer For Graduates

*Eternal God, in your will our lives are lived, and by your wisdom truth is found. We pray for graduates who finish a course of study, and move on to something new. Take away anxiety or confusion of purpose, and give them confidence in the future you plan, where energies may be gathered up and given to neighbors in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



## Church Website

Check out our church's website at [www.sussexpresbyterian.org](http://www.sussexpresbyterian.org) ! You will be able to see current and past newsletters, Pastor Amy's sermons, church events, and more!



## 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](http://tonerbuyer.com) and [empties4cash.com](http://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 our June Deacons' Fund recipient, Camp Johnsonburg. The money that was donated will be used to provide summer camp funds for children in need and to support other programs at Camp Johnsonburg, such as youth retreats and adult spiritual sanctuary events held year-round.

Our Deacons' Fund for July will go to People Help of Sussex County. People Help of Sussex County is a nonprofit, all volunteer agency, and has been in existence since 1976 at the request of the Division of Social Services and the churches across our county. For 37 years, People Help has been able to provide one-time, immediate aid for emergency assistance of residents who do not financially qualify for help from any other agency. They have no office, no paid staff. Their volunteers answer calls from 9-5, Monday through Friday, responding to the clients who have reached out to them directly, or have been referred by various other agencies who have been unable to meet immediate needs.

For August, it will go to Local Share. Food is grown by local farmers who allow volunteers to glean the food leftover in the fields. This food is then delivered by volunteers to pantries, soup kitchens, and other social services. 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, give it to Pastor Amy, 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.

***NOTE:*** *We were able to help another person in need. More funds are available. Do you know of someone who needs a little boost?*

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

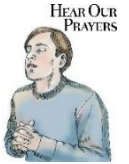


Prayer Shawl Ministry

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.

## 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!**

### Lectionary for the Lord's Day

#### July 2020

**5** *5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 45:10-17; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

**12** *6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 119:105-112; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**19** *7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**26** *8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 128; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



#### August 2020

**2** *9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Matthew 14:13-21

**9** *10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22; Matthew 14:22-33

**16** *11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 133; Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28

**23** *12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 124; Matthew 16:13-20

**30** *13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c; Matthew 16:21-28

#### September 2020

**6** *14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 149; Matthew 18:15-20

**13** *15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Psalm 114; Matthew 18:21-35



### July Birthdays

- (2) Eric Sives
- (9) Thomas Clark
- (10) Natalie Alheidt
- (11) Veronica Pluymers  
Jason Touw
- (13) Jim Hardin  
Keira Lewis
- (17) Michelle LiTrenta
- (18) Emeline Demeter
- (19) Brooke Hayzler
- (21) August Ziccardi
- (24) Donna Gibson  
Adam Hardin  
Janet Hayzler
- (26) Lori Davis
- (27) Frank Dwornikoski
- (28) Phil Hardin

### August Birthdays

- (4) David Tomasula
- (5) Judy Clark
- (7) Natalie Lewis  
Baylie Touw
- (8) Jane Clark
- (10) Elizebeth Meloskie  
Adam Vanderwiele
- (11) Ed Sives
- (13) Barbara Young
- (14) Susan Vanden Heuvel
- (23) Charles Nagy
- (24) Samantha Fairweather
- (25) Robert Demeter, Jr.
- (28) Robert Pluymers  
Liam Klein
- (29) Sally Burns  
Michele Higgins



## Local Food Pantry News



The Sussex Help Center is open from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Fridays, and from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Mondays and Saturdays. They need cereals, any canned food, and Gatorade (any size or flavor). The Church of the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Wantage needs cereals and canned meats of any kind. They are open for drop-offs between 9:00 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you know of a family in need, please contact Walter Houck ([973-875-7412](tel:973-875-7412)). **Thank you for your support!**

**Family Promise:** Despite the shelter being closed, Family Promise of Sussex County has remained open to serve those experiencing homelessness in our community. Currently, their biggest need is food for clients. They would like: canned fruits and vegetables, beans, cereal, peanut butter and jelly, bread, pasta and sauce, macaroni and cheese, applesauce, snacks, soup, rice, toilet paper, paper towels, soap (body, dish, laundry), lotion, shampoo and conditioner. They also have some clients with special dietary needs (diabetic, allergies, etc.). Donations of food can be dropped off at the Family Promise office (19 Church Street, Newton). They are also in need of drivers to drop food off at client's homes (contact-less, of course!). Please call ([973\) 579-1180](tel:973-579-1180) for more information.



Dear Pastor Amy,

When we put out a cry for help, you and your congregation heard our plea. Thank you all for generously supporting the Panty at the Church of the Good Shepherd during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Blessings,  
Susie, Pantry Director

## From Our Church Sign

*Thank you to Phil Hardin!*





*If you cannot volunteer on your scheduled date, please “swap” a date with someone else and notify Sharon Bove at 875-4760. Thank you!*

***Please Note:*** Due to the Covid-19 virus, we will conduct services online through at least **July 19<sup>th</sup>**.

### Schedule of Liturgists (No Liturgists through August 16<sup>th</sup>)

August 23<sup>rd</sup>  
August 30<sup>th</sup>  
September 6<sup>th</sup>  
September 13<sup>th</sup>

Mike Kosco  
Marion Kopec  
Phil Hardin  
Richard M. Hayzler



### Schedule of Ushers



July 19<sup>th</sup>  
July 26<sup>th</sup>  
August 2<sup>nd</sup>  
August 9<sup>th</sup>  
August 16<sup>th</sup>  
August 23<sup>rd</sup>  
August 30<sup>th</sup>  
September 6<sup>th</sup>  
September 13<sup>th</sup>

John & Giselle Smisko  
Mary Alice Hosking & Niki Lepes  
Janet Hayzler & Ryan Hayzler  
Bob & Donna Gibson  
Lorraine Ricci & Pat Walker  
Kristen Hayzler & Sheila Stormes  
John & Giselle Smisko  
Rob Hayzler & Eric Sives  
Janet Hayzler & Ryan Hayzler

### Communion Preparers & Servers

#### Preparers

August 2<sup>nd</sup>  
September 6<sup>th</sup>

Ivy Diorio  
Nancy Barta

#### Servers

August 2<sup>nd</sup>  
September 6<sup>th</sup>

Marion Kopec  
Sharon Alheidt, Joanne Cosh,  
Betty Martin, & Evelyn Haggard



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## GREETERS SCHEDULE

July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Sheila Stormes
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Barbara Young
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Amy Mills
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Alice Hosking
August 16 <sup>th</sup>	Lisa Emma
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Walter Houck
August 30 <sup>th</sup>	Niki Lepes
September 6 <sup>th</sup>	Pat Walker
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Janet Hayzler

### Acolytes

July 19 <sup>th</sup>	--	August Ziccardi
July 26 <sup>th</sup>	--	Kiera Lewis
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	--	Molly Swarts
August 9 <sup>th</sup>	--	Ryan Hayzler
August 16 <sup>th</sup>	--	Brooke Hayzler
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	--	Nathan Hayzler
August 30 <sup>th</sup>	--	August Ziccardi
September 6 <sup>th</sup>	--	Kiera Lewis
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	--	Molly Swarts



### Refreshments After Worship Service



Since we are holding worship on Sundays via ZOOM, our refreshments have been suspended until further notice. Please call Sheila Stormes (973-702-1548) or Lois Wright (973-875-3555) if you have any questions.

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He put before them another parable: The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

– Matthew 13:31-32

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