



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

21 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07461

Summer 2023

## From the Pastor's Desk...



Hello Friends and Members of Sussex Presbyterian!

What a joy to be together again! I'm back from my three-month maternity leave. And I thank you all for giving me the time to be at home, focused on my baby and this new chapter in our lives. Donald and I are enjoying parenthood and are looking forward to whatever Marlena (and God) have in store for us.

When I think of summer, I think of watermelon, ocean waves, sunscreen, mosquitoes, lots of sunshine, camping, rainstorms, pool time, travel. Some of these have been true since my childhood and others are more recent additions since living in a few places during my adult years. What does summer mean to you?

Now that we're in our summer schedule for church, we're worshipping at 9:30 a.m.—which I'm grateful for to beat the heat, but it definitely makes it difficult to get out of the house on time. And I hope to see many of you in worship this summer, though as I know, with travel plans and other summer fun, it may not be until the fall that we'll be reunited.

Whenever you happen to find yourself at church (in the sanctuary, on ZOOM, or on the YouTube recording), you'll be delving into our summer sermon series on the 12 PC(USA) Confessions. These are the foundational statements of what the PC(USA) believes. I hope you'll join me in the months of July, August, and September to see what it is the PC(USA) formally states are the denomination's beliefs.

You might be wondering, but Pastor Katherine, why is this important? Well, thinking about what you believe is an important step in maturing our faith. Proverbs 3:5-6 (in the NASB version) says, *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."* Later in verse 13, Proverbs says, *"Blessed is the person who finds wisdom, and one who obtains understanding."*

Learning and thinking about, focusing on who God is and why we trust God is an important piece of the puzzle with our confessions and, hopefully, this sermon series will inspire you to do the same.

Perhaps it'll even inspire you to create your own statement of faith (just like I ask all confirmation students to do at the end of their confirmation class). That sounds like it could be a fun... or at least thoughtful... summer activity. Perhaps on those days when the thunderstorm changes your plans at the last minute?

May you enjoy your summer, and I'm looking forward to seeing you again soon! I'd love to catch up—maybe over coffee/tea, lunch, or a walk—so if that's something you'd like, too, we can set up a time!

In Christ,  
Pastor Katherine Scott-Kirschner  
(973) 771-4721 (cell)

# Summer Worship Schedule

Our worship service starts at 9:30 a.m. through August 27<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendar so you won't miss it!!



## Mark Your Calendars



The next regular Session meeting will be held on **Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>**, 6:30 p.m., on ZOOM; the Deacons' met Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>.

## 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.



## Thank You!



Thank you to the Hospitality Committee for the great luncheon held on June 20<sup>th</sup> in honor of Pastor Katherine and Marlena. Special thanks to Penny Bates, Joanne Cosh, and Janet Hayzler for the delicious food and beautiful flowers! Great food and fellowship were had by all who attended!

## How Are We Doing???

### For the Months of May and June

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

Average Weekly Attendance (May):	40
Monthly Offering (May):	\$8,053.50
Average Weekly Attendance (June):	39
Monthly Offering (June):	\$9,129.50



## Don't Forget!



Summer and vacations are here. Please remember to keep up with your 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, which is historically an issue during the summer.



**Natalie Alheidt** graduated college.

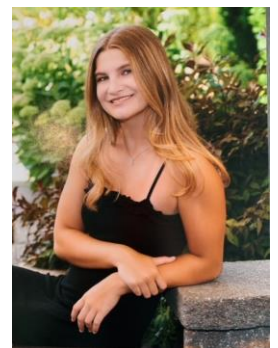
**Brian Lewis** graduated from High Point Regional High School,

**Allison Gibson**, granddaughter of Bob & Donna Gibson, graduated Magna Cum Laude from S.U.N.Y. Cortland, with a teaching degree. She will be teaching kindergarten in the Township of Newfields in NY.



**Liam Mathis**, grandson of Bob & Donna Gibson, graduated with honors from East Mountain High School in a suburb of Albuquerque, NM. He will pursue a degree in nursing at the University of New Mexico in the fall. Liam has been on the Ski Patrol, studied first aid, and actually performed it on injured people, which has a lot to do with his decision to study nursing in college. He also became an Eagle Scout, which is the highest award in Boy Scouts.

**Reilly Buchholz**, granddaughter of Kathy Carey, graduated from Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights, NJ, on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Reilly is president of the National Arts Honor Society, and she volunteers at Home for Good, a dog shelter. She also works part-time at Dogtopia, a dog daycare center. Reilly will be attending Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota, FL, majoring in illustration.





**Claire Bove**, granddaughter of Sharon Bove, graduated Pre-K at Calvary Nursery School in Cranford, NJ. Claire will be attending kindergarten at Brookside Place School in Cranford in the fall.



### 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.*



### Summer Sermon Series



Pastor Katherine is presenting a Summer Sermon Series on the 12 PC(USA) Confessions. Join us for this interesting series!

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Nathan Hayzler for making the Honor Roll all four marking periods at the Sussex Middle School.



### Pentecost Offering



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Pentecost Offering, which was collected on May 21<sup>st</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup> (Pentecost Sunday). We collected \$211.00; 40% we get to keep for youth in our community.



# 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.

Sunday School for 2023-2024 will start on **Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**.

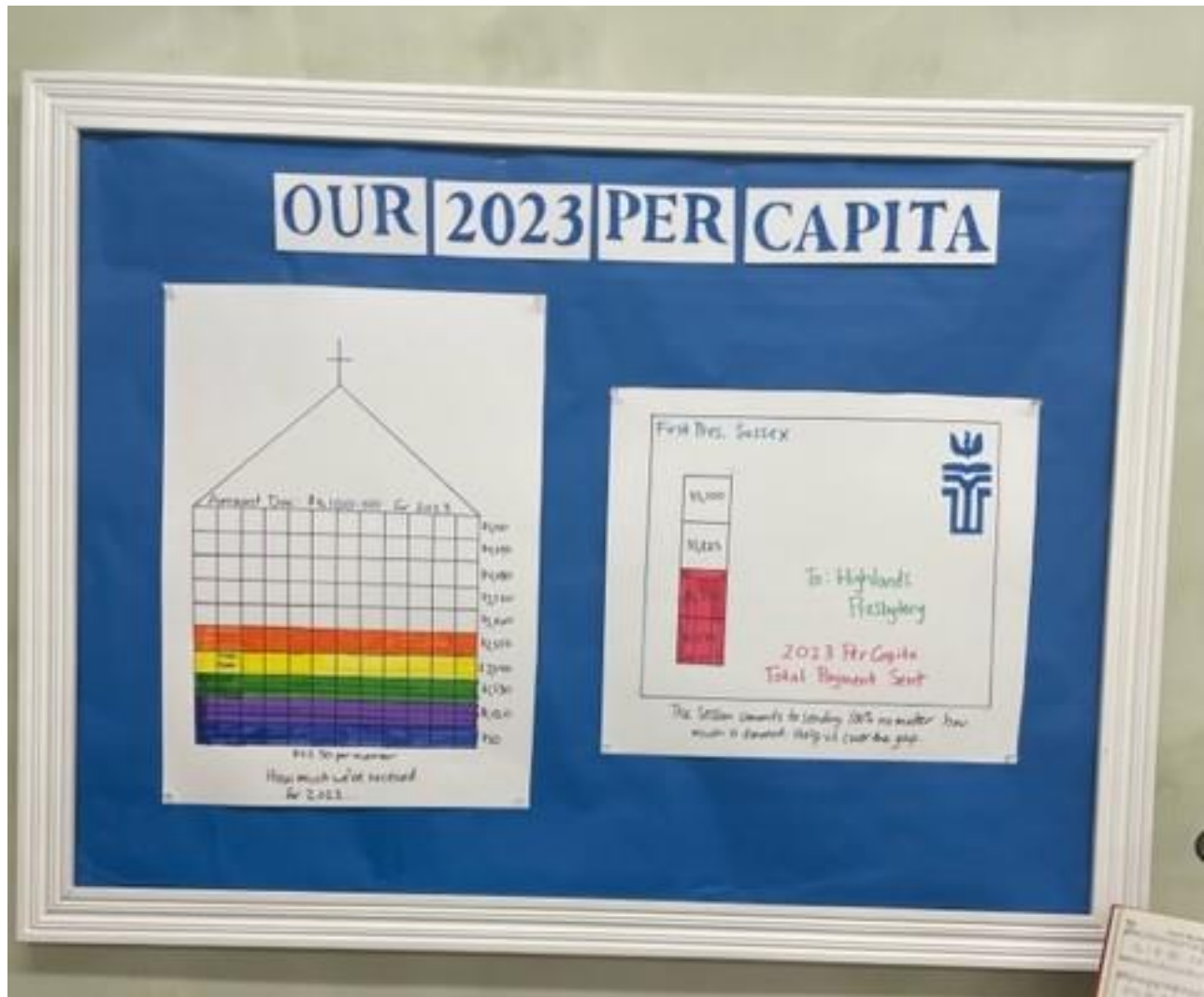


## Why Per Capita?



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](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.

## In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Please pray for **Nancy Barta, Teresa Belcher** (a friend of The Batemans), **Madelyn Coykendall, Frank Del Sardo, Jr., Bob & Donna Gibson, Rev. Bruce Gillette & Family, Charlie & Dodi Lain, Betty Martin, Kenneth Van Wageninge** (Carolyn's brother), **Pat Walker, Lois Wright, Barbara Young, and Brian Young**. Please let the Deacons or the office know who to add and who to remove. **Thank you!**

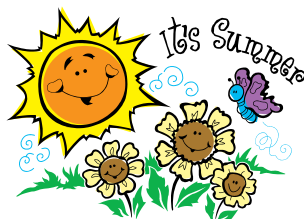


## Prayers of the People E-mail

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 Harvest House, our Deacons' Fund recipient for June. Our Deacons' Fund recipient for July is Project Self-Sufficiency. For August, it will go to Local Share. Please give generously!



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

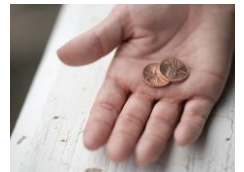


Prayer Shawl Ministry

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?**

## How Can We Help?



The Deacons are here to support and help our church family. If you have difficulty getting something done around your home, inside or out, we would like to help. If we can be of assistance, please speak to a deacon, or call Nancy Barta.

## Thank You!

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all for the gift card. It sure helped with our many trips to Morristown and Dover—dialysis will continue forever, but it is sure helping George.

Most Sincerely,  
Judy & George Clark

Dear Church Members and Family,

Thank you very much for the birthday card. I became 80 years old! That is a long time since I joined our church at age 12! A lot has happened since then. Niki Lepes and I are friends since we were 4½ years old!

There are many stories about our church since its opening. My husband and I were married in our church.

May we always take care of our church. It is a Blessing to all of us. It is the Lord's House.

Most Sincerely with Love,  
Mary Alice Hosking



### July Birthdays

- (2) Eric Sives
- (9) Thomas Clark
- (10) Natalie Alheidt
- (11) Jason Touw
- (13) Jim Hardin  
Keira Lewis
- (18) Emeline Demeter
- (19) Brooke Hayzler
- (21) August Ziccardi
- (24) Donna Gibson  
Janet Hayzler
- (28) Phil Hardin



### August Birthdays

- (4) David Tomasula
- (5) Judy Clark
- (7) Natalie Lewis  
Baylie Touw
- (8) Jane Clark
- (10) Adam Vanderwiele
- (11) Ed Sives
- (13) Barbara Young
- (14) Susan Vanden Heuvel
- (24) Samantha Fairweather
- (25) Robert Demeter, Jr.
- (28) Liam Klein



## You're Invited



You're Invited!

Pastor Katherine and her family invite you to stop by for an Apple Palooza at the manse (23 Unionville Ave.) on **Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**, any time between 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will be yummy apple treats to enjoy together!



# Lectionary for the Lord's Day

## July 2023

- 16 **7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Psalm 119:105-112; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
- 23 **8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
- 30 **9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Psalm 105:1-11; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

## August 2023

- 6 **10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Matthew 14:13-21
- 13 **11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22; Matthew 14:22-33
- 20 **12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Psalm 133; Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28
- 27 **13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Psalm 124; Matthew 16:13-20



## September 2023

- 3 **14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26; Matthew 16:21-28
- 10 **15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Psalm 119:33-40; Matthew 18:15-20

## 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 September*) 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

July 16 <sup>th</sup>	Richard L. Hayzler
July 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mike Kosco
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	Janet Hayzler
August 6 <sup>th</sup>	Betsy Sives
August 13 <sup>th</sup>	Walter Houck
August 20 <sup>th</sup>	Sheryl Dekmar
August 27 <sup>th</sup>	Richard L. Hayzler
September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mike Kosco
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	Janet Hayzler
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	Betsy Sives
September 24 <sup>th</sup>	Walter Houck



## Schedule of Communion Preparers and Servers

### Preparers

August 6<sup>th</sup> – Chris Sarno  
 September 3<sup>rd</sup> – \_\_\_\_\_

### Servers

August 6<sup>th</sup> – Walter Houck & Paulette Touw  
 September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Joanne Cosh & Ashley Ziccardi

## Schedule of Ushers



July 16<sup>th</sup>  
 July 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 July 30<sup>th</sup>  
 August 6<sup>th</sup>  
 August 13<sup>th</sup>  
 August 20<sup>th</sup>  
 August 27<sup>th</sup>  
 September 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 September 10<sup>th</sup>

Kathy Carey & Joanne Cosh  
 Sheryl Dekmar & Ken Enhoffer  
 Paulette Touw & Ashley Ziccardi  
 Kyle DeGroat & \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mary Alice Hosking & Niki Lepes  
 Chris & Chuck Sarno  
 \_\_\_\_\_ & Ashley Ziccardi  
 Sheryl Dekmar & Paulette Touw  
 Mary Alice Hosking & Niki Lepes

## Vacation Bible School

Hear Ye, Hear Ye! All Pre-K (4) through 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to a castle adventure! The Quest for the King's Armor at the Knights of the North Castle VBS. It will be held at our church **July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We are working with the Sussex United Methodist Church again this year. For questions or more information, call 973-875-4760 or 973-875-5852, or email: [sussexpresbyterian@embarqmail.com](mailto:sussexpresbyterian@embarqmail.com) or [sussexumcnj@gmail.com](mailto:sussexumcnj@gmail.com). Registration forms are on the table in the narthex. Or use the QR Code on the flyer on the bulletin board in the fellowship room.



**The Frankford Plains United Methodist Church** will host their VBS the week of **August 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>**, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. More information to follow.

## 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.



## Christmas In July

The Daughters of the Revolution will be holding their annual Christmas in July celebration **July 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>**, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the DAR Museum on Route 23 in Wantage. They would greatly appreciate your support! Thank you!



## Harvest Home Dinner



The Beemerville Presbyterian Church invites you to their annual Harvest Home Dinner on **Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**, 5-7 p.m., at the Beemerville Firehouse in Wantage. Tickets can be bought at the door: \$18/adults and \$9/children. This all you can eat dinner includes ham, scalloped potatoes, corn on the cob, and much more.

## We Thank.....

Our congregation is very thankful for a donation to our church that has resulted in replacing the clouded covering over the stained glass picture window in the front of our church. For a very long time, this view will be clear for all to see. We are so thankful for this addition to our church.

Charles Bates, Clerk of Session

In our last newsletter, we had pictures of our Spring Clean-Up Day. The Building & Grounds Committee would like to acknowledge Tom Alheidt, Charles and Penny Bates, Ken Enhoffer, Phil Hardin, Steve Kacmar, Jennifer Kovach and sons Adam and Jacob, Sheila Stormes, Jason and Baylie Touw, Ashley and Richard Ziccardi and sons Heath and August. They helped beautify the church properties with mulching, trimming of shrubs, and eliminating weeds. The work is appreciated with thanks. Remember: Many hands make light work.

Charles Bates, Buildings & Grounds Chair



## A Song of Ascents for David

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity.

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.

It is like Hermon's dew that comes down on the parched mountains.  
For there the Lord ordained the blessing – life forevermore.

Psalm 133 (translation: NRSV and Robert Alter)



# Our Church Sign

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

