



The Steeple Chimes

The E-Newsletter of The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn
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Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef, Pastor

Summer, 2022

Pastor's Message

My Beloved Church Family,

It is very rare that a person belongs to the same congregation from cradle to grave. Yes, it happens, but not very often. Personally, I have belonged to nine churches since I have been born, and each one has been delightfully different.

I don't know how many churches the average pastor serves over the course of a career. This is my second church, and probably will be my last. I am treated wonderfully here, and am very, very happy. I have had to make a few adjustments in my thinking, though, because a small suburban church functions very differently from a small rural church.

The biggest difference between my two churches has been the summer season. In Orient, we would shift into "high gear." Attendance would double, and the calendar would fill with concerts, a church fair, church suppers, and other community outreach activities.

Here, at FPC Greenlawn, we "kick back" in the summer. Attendance is fairly stable, worship in the parlor is very informal, and we spend a lot of time planning for the coming year.

I am excited about some of the things that we are planning for the fall season. Here is a partial list, with more to come. Mark your calendar!

Sunday, September 11:	Dedication of our new Peace Pole
Saturday, September 24:	Annual Church Fair
Sunday, October 2:	Blessing of the Pets
Sunday, October 23:	150 th Anniversary Service and Gala Luncheon
Sunday, November 20:	Thanksgiving Luncheon
Saturday, December 3:	Christmas Tea
Saturday, December 10:	Christmas Fair
Sunday, December 18:	A Festival of Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 18:	Community Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing
Saturday, December 24:	Christmas Eve Service

We're always open to new ideas, new ways to reach out to the community, and new ways to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Let us know if you have any ideas.

With love and blessings,

Pastor Ann



Zoom Worship

We will continue to “simulcast” our Sunday worship on Zoom for those who cannot be in the Sanctuary. You may log on as early as 10:00 a.m. for our 10:30 Celebration of Worship.

The easiest way to do Zoom is to download the Zoom App from the App Store. Zoom will work on a computer, a laptop, an I-Pad, or a Smartphone.

What are the Meeting IDs for Sunday Worship?

Now through July 31, inclusive, **Meeting ID: 814 0660 4905, Passcode: 473096**

August 7 through September 18, inclusive, **Meeting ID: 845 5330 1194, Passcode: 669102**

If you are on the church e-mail list, you will get a weekly e-mail with the Zoom link.

I don't have a computer or a Smartphone. What can I do?

You may telephone the following number:

1-646-558-8656.

You will be asked for a Meeting ID and a passcode. (Please see paragraph 3.)

You won't be able to see us, but you can still hear what's going on.



Birthday Blessings!

July 5 – Rosalie Schweighardt

July 6 – Barbara Small

July 9 – Rev. Fred Woodward

July 11 – Leslie Strait

July 29 – Giorgetta Viteritti

August 3 – William D'Andrea

August 3 – Lydia Mott

August 8 – Kathleen Remauro

August 17 – Maria Hottinger

August 23 – Briana Rixon

August 31 – Ruth Satterlee

September 2 – Rev. Ann Van Cleef

September 7 – Robert Eitel

September 7 – Mildred Bachman

September 11 – Meg Lawrence

September 14 – Benjamin Dean

September 14 – Leonora Colletti

September 19 – Jill Wilson

September 20 – Gary Mott

September 20 – Olivia Buatsi

September 23 – David Hammer

September 24 – Alexander Kirchhoff



Prayer Corner

ONE

~E. Hale

I am only one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
What I can do, I should do and,
with the help of God, I will do!

OUTWITTED

He drew a circle that shut me out—
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But Love and I had the wit to win;
We drew a circle that took him in!

*And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.
But the greatest of these is love.*

~1 Corinthians 13:13

TESTIMONY

Personal prayer, it seems to me, is one of the simplest necessities of life, as basic to the individual as sunshine, food and water---and at times, of course, more so. By prayer I believe we mean an effort to get in touch with the Infinite. We know that our prayers are imperfect. Of course, they are. We are imperfect human beings. A thousand experiences have convinced me beyond room of doubt that prayer multiplies the strength of the individual and brings within the scope of his capabilities almost any conceivable objective.

~Dwight D. Eisenhower

QUOTES WORTH REMEMBERING

“Even if you’re on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there.”

~Will Rogers

“Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.”

~Thomas Edison

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us.”

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Intelligence plus Character...
that is the goal of true education.”

~Martin Luther King Jr.

“Never let the fear of striking out
keep you from playing the game.”

~Babe Ruth

“If opportunity doesn’t knock – build a door.”

~Thomas Edison

“I have not failed.

I’ve just found 10,000 ways that don’t work.”

~ Thomas Edison

Submitted by Betty Chatfield

A LAUGH IS THE BEST MEDICINE

Feeling rundown? Try chuckling more. Some researchers think laughter truly might be the best medicine, helping you feel better and putting that spring back in your step.

So, here’s a joke you may have forgotten:

Q: Why should you never iron a four-leaf clover?

A: You don’t want to press your luck.

~brought to you by former member: Evelyn Starost



Early Summer Worship at FPC Greenlawn



June 19 was Father's Day. We honored our fathers and other important men in our lives with photos on the Communion Table. Special gifts were given to all of the men in the church.

On June 26, Pastor Ann's sermon was titled, "Being a Christian – Not as Easy as You Would Think." The Minute for Mission was delivered by Beth Del Giudice, Case Management Supervisor at Long Island Youth Mentoring.

July 3 was part of Independence Day Weekend, and the Service was patriotic in nature. Communion was served.

On July 10, we unpacked the parable of the Good Samaritan with a sermon called "A Higher way of Loving."

Dr. Don Russo returned to us as guest preacher on July 17 to share a message titled, "The World's True Novelty: Forgiveness."

Upcoming Worship Themes

July 24: We will unpack The Lord's Prayer with "A Lesson on Prayer."

July 31: God blesses us abundantly. The sermon is called "How Do We Handle Our Blessings?"

August 7: We humans put too much emphasis on things of this world, and not enough emphasis on God's Kingdom. We will explore this with "The Fear of Loss." Communion will be served.

August 14: A seminary classmate of Pastor Ann's, Glenn Rubin, will be our guest preacher. Glenn comes to us from the Methodist tradition.

August 21: Christianity is more about compassion than in rule-following. The sermon is called, "Compassion vs. Legalism."

August 28: Today, we will re-run your favorite sermon from the past year – whatever that happens to be. (See article on page 6.)

Looking Toward September ...

September 4 is Labor Day Weekend. The sermon will be about the blessings of work. Communion will be served.

On September 11, we will observe the 21st anniversary of 9/11. At the conclusion of the Service, we will dedicate our new Peace Pole which will proclaim "May Peace Prevail on Earth" to the community – in eight different languages. (See article on page 7.)



Thank You, God, for the Fathers in Our Lives

On Sunday, June 19, we thanked God for our fathers and other special men who may have been like fathers to us. We placed photos on the Communion Table, and said special prayers of blessing and thanks. Fellowship Director Debbie Eitel arranged for some special gifts for all the men who were present.

Thank you, gentlemen, for all that you do for God's Creation. We hope you had a happy Father's Day, and may God bless you abundantly!

Communion

Here at The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn, The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is available to all.

If you are home-bound and would like Pastor Ann to come to your home with Communion, please e-mail her at pastorannsutton@yahoo.com to set up a mutual time.



In Loving Memory

Virginia Anna (Ginny) Soergel
(February 19, 1933 – February 6, 2021)

Our beloved Ginny died well over a year ago, but due to the pandemic, we were not able to hold her Memorial Service until June 25 of this year. We thought you'd like to read this tribute written by her daughter, Rachel Chester.

Our beloved mother, Virginia Soergel, of Huntington, NY, went to be with the Lord on February 6, 2021. She passed in peace with the love of her family beside her. She was 87 years old.

Virginia Anna Highnote was born to Ben and Rose Highnote on February 19, 1933, in Elmhurst, Queens, NY. She was the elder of their two daughters. Growing up, her mother's sister, Helen, helped raise Virginia and sister Helen, as both parents worked.

As a young girl, Virginia wanted to be a missionary. She would later fulfill that desire in a different way: people came to her instead of her going to them; opening her home to children and teens from other countries in need of open-heart surgery; being their caretaker until they healed and returned home. She always sent them home with suitcases of new clothes, gifts for their families, a photo album of their stay, and little treasures – things they loved. Most of all, she sent them home healthy, happy, and loved.

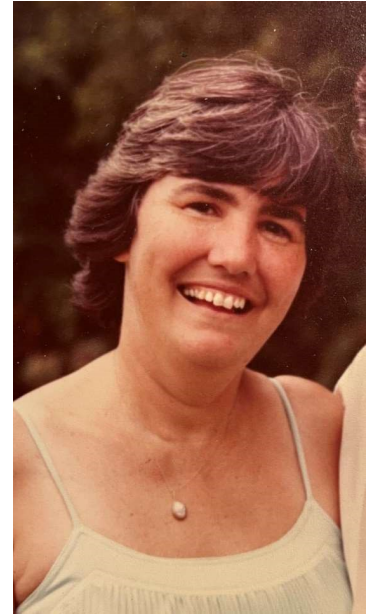
On June 22, 1952, Virginia married her childhood sweetheart and love of her life, Richard Soergel, whom she met when she was nine years old. They started dating when she was 16, and married at 18. Being stationed in the Air Force, they lived in Mississippi, Massachusetts, and Georgia. After Richard was discharged from the Air Force, they moved to Long Island, and bought a small house on Kellum Street in Huntington. Together, they had five children: Cathy, Richard, Daniel, Cheryl, and Paul.

Their family was growing, so they moved to 22 Manor Road six months before their fourth child, Cheryl, was born. Manor Road was where she lived for the next 50 years.

Isaiah 43:5-7 was special to her when she and my Dad decided to adopt from Korea. Joshua, Leah, and Rachel made a total of eight children.

She was a grandmother of fourteen: Erin, Tara, Carrie, Paul, Brittany, Sean, Ryan, Ben, Chris, Alfa, Anna, Christian, Nicholas, and Andrew. She had 24 great-grandchildren: Noah, Luke, Rian, Corrine, Ada, Gwen, Ginny, Wesley, Sadie, Tristin, Colton, Hunter, Averi, Drew, Willow, Max, Lily, Nyah, Maree, Own, Eli, Max, Asher, and Mila. Virginia was the heart of her home and family. People die, but love never dies. It lives forever in the lives of her family.

Virginia had some distinct gifts that she used to the fullest – to bless others. As a teenager, she used to paint. She stopped while raising her family, but started again later in life. She belonged to a painting club at Centerport Beach, which she attended once a week for many years. She painted my wedding program as well as the cover of her cookbook. She could paint on velvet as well as on wood. Virginia had many topics, but often painted someone in her family. We will miss her cards and calendars; we treasure them.



Growing up, if she wasn't cooking or cleaning, she was sewing something. She pretty much could sew anything. Her work was perfect: dresses, baby clothes, Halloween costumes, sweaters, my son's dedication outfit, hems, pillows, curtains – she even made her oldest Cathy and youngest Rachel's wedding dresses. Even her granddaughter Brittany had her Mom's dress altered and wore it for her wedding.

The woman could cook; her food is part of our memories. Growing up, we hardly ate fast food. My Dad would often come home from work at lunchtime to Mom making something for him. She always made the holidays special. She made the best gravy. And yes, she ran out of ideas for dinner, so she came up with Saturday night simple supper: soup and sandwiches. As a gift to her children one Christmas, Mom made a cookbook of all her

recipes, hand-written. There were 10 categories. The cover was hand-painted, with special individualized notes.

Virginia always had a soft spot for animals, both in the home and wild animals outside. I recall her feeding baby birds with a droplet, bottle-feeding baby racoons, and even possums. She always had a parrot. Her house was full of people and animals!

Virginia had as strong sense of who God was and what He meant to her. She knew that everything she had, came from Him. Whenever she prayed, one always got the sense that she wasn't just talking to anyone. She had a gentle way of adding her faith to the lives of her children. We are blessed for the gift of Virginia's life. She was so special, and will never be forgotten.

"Home Runs and Re-runs"

Many years ago, there was a cartoon in a magazine. A man was sitting in front of his television. His wife was standing behind him, with her hands on her hips. The caption quoted her as saying, "Here we go. Another summer of home runs and re-runs."

We, at FPC Greenlawn are going to take that theme and run with it. (Ugh! Sorry!)

Are there any sermons from the past year that hit a "home run" with you that you would like to have us "re-run?"

How about hymns? Is there a favorite hymn you haven't heard in a while what we can "re-run" for you?



Our "Home Runs and Re-runs" service will take place on Sunday, August 28. Please contact Pastor Ann and tell her which

sermon and hymns you would like to hear again.

Maybe we'll even wear the shirts / hats / of our favorite baseball teams that day!

Sermons:

9/5/21	Do we Work Too Hard?
9/12/21	Don't Be Afraid to Love
9/19/21	An Imperfect Instrument in the Hands of God
9/26/21	Called by God
10/3/21	So, You Think <i>You</i> 've Got Troubles?
10/10/21	An Answer to a Question
10/17/21	Seeing, and Yet, Not Seeing

10/24/21	Beyond Money: Becoming Good and Faithful Stewards
10/31/21	God will Wipe Away Every Tear
11/7/21	The Widow's Mite
11/14/21	<i>(Laity Sunday)</i>
11/21/21	Thank You, God, for Hand-Me-Downs
11/28/21	A Season of Hope
12/5/21	The Crooked Roads Shall Become Straight
12/12/21	A Little Christmas?
12/19/21	A Story: "Toothless Grin"
12/24/21	Reflections on Christmas
12/26/21	The Story of Jingle Bells
1/2/22	In God's Time
1/9/22	Baptism 101
1/16/22	The Wedding Day
1/23/22	The Body of Christ
1/30/22	Finding Yourself vs. Living Up to Expectations
2/6/22	Leaving It All Behind
2/13/22	<i>(Vacation)</i>
2/20/22	<i>(Vacation)</i>
2/27/22	Transformed!
3/6/22	The Privileges and Responsibilities of the Christian Life
3/13/22	The Outstretched Hand of Christ
3/20/22	Complacency, Thy Name Is _____
3/27/22	Reconciliation
4/3/22	Putting the Past Behind
4/10/22	The Incongruity of Palm Sunday
4/17/22	I Don't Understand Easter
4/24/22	A Theology of Ecology
5/1/22	Unfinished Business
5/8/22	Effective Mothers
5/15/22	<i>(Brewsters – Mercy Ships)</i>
5/22/22	<i>(Vacation)</i>
5/29/22	Memorial Day, 2022
6/5/22	Give Thanks for the Many Gifts of the Spirit
6/12/22	<i>(Continuing Education Leave)</i>
6/19/22	The Inspiration of Joseph
6/26/22	Being a Christian – Not as Easy as One Would Think
7/3/22	Happy Birthday, America!
7/10/22	A Higher way of Loving
7/17/22	<i>(Vacation)</i>
7/24/24	A Lesson on Prayer
7/31/22	How Do we Handle Our Blessings?
8/7/22	The Fear of Loss
8/14/22	<i>(Vacation)</i>
8/21/22	Compassion vs. Legalism

Peace Pole to Be Planted at FPCG

Honoring 150th Anniversary

A Peace Pole is an internationally recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family, standing in vigil for peace on Earth. Each Peace Pole bears the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in eight different languages, two on each of its four sides. There are an estimated 250,000 Peace Poles in every country in the world, dedicated as monuments to peace.



Peace Poles have been placed in such notable locations as the North Magnetic Pole, the Hiroshima Peace Memorial, and the site of the Egyptian Pyramids in Giza. Peace Poles are commonly installed at high-profile public gathering places, such as community parks or near the entrances of churches or schools.

Planting a Peace Pole is a way of bringing people together to inspire, awaken, and uplift the human consciousness the world over. It's recognized as a prominent international symbol and a monument to peace, reminding us to think, speak, and act in the spirit of peace and harmony.

Our Peace Pole, a gift from the Van Cleefs, will be planted and dedicated on Sunday, September 11, during our Service of worship. The languages on the pole will be English, Spanish, Greek, Hebrew, German, Korean, Italian, and French.

Our Staff

Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef – Pastor
Leonora Colletti – Director of Music and
Administrative Assistant
Debbie Eitel – Fellowship Director
Gary Prentiss – Custodian
James Dean – Treasurer
Betty Chatfield – Financial Secretary
Susan Perrotta – Benevolence Secretary
Irene Lang – Webmaster
Larry Foray – Building Use Manager

Our Church Fair is Back!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 25. Our Church Fair is back! Larry Foray is chairing this event, with the assistance of as many of our church members and friends as possible.

Right now, we are looking for vendors to rent 10 by 10-foot spaces at the Fair. Do you know someone who might be interested?

Larry has a list of jobs for people to do prior to the Fair as well as on the day of the event itself. Some of these jobs can be done sitting down.

We need people to chair the publicity and raffle teams. Additionally, our rummage sale and food concession team chairs need people to help.

This is an "all hands on deck" event. Please contact Larry Foray to tell him how you can help. You may call the church office at (631) 261-2150 and leave a message; Larry will get back to you.



This is an important outreach into our community, and a chance to share what we are all about at FPC Greenlawn.

The Pentecost Offering

Our Pentecost Offering was received on June 26. Thank you to everyone who supported this offering.

40% of the offering will be given to Long Island



Youth Mentoring. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

We were delighted to have Beth Del Giudice, Case Management Supervisor at Long Island Youth

Mentoring, as our guest on the 26th, who spoke of the fine work that this organization does. Many thanks to Jim Dean, a longtime Youth Mentor, who arranged for Beth to speak to us.

Church Theatre Outing

On Saturday evening, June 25, nine church members and friends gathered at the Harry Chapin stage in Heckscher Park to see FPCG friend, Peter Osterman, perform the lead role (Sir Lancelot) in *Camelot*.

Congratulations, Peter (pictured in white), and many thanks to those who attended this excellent performance.



Happy Birthday, America!

On Sunday, July 3, our congregation celebrated America's 246th birthday in style with prayer, song, and a carrot cake!



Our Session

Recording Clerk

Susan Perrotta

Class of 2023

Diane Kirchhoff
Gary Prentiss

Class of 2024

Arlissa Dean
Kathleen Gerlach
Craig Satterlee

Class of 2025

Debbie Eitel
Larry Foray
Susan Perrotta

Laughter is the Best Medicine

I leave my house a mess so when friends visit, they go home feeling better about their own housekeeping skills.

I'm just that good of a friend!

I've finally reached "The Wonder Years." I wonder where I parked the car? I wonder where I left my phone? I wonder where my glasses are? I wonder what day it is?

Young people – if you think you are smarter than the previous generation ... 50 years ago the owner's manual of a car showed you how to adjust the valves. Today it warns you not to drink the contents of the battery.

If we decided to switch to cursive writing and stick shift cars, we could cripple an entire generation!

I just realized today that the paper towels by the gas pump are for wiping away the tears after you fill up your gas tank.

The inventor of autocorrect died. The funnel will be held tomato.

Once you lick the frosting off a cupcake it becomes a muffin ... and muffins are healthy.

You're welcome.

I was wondering why music was coming from my printer. Apparently, the printer was jamming.

"You're not the boss of me," I say as I let the dog in and out, 17 times in a row.

Some days I amaze myself. Other days, I put my keys in the refrigerator.

Things that used to hurt my back: Jumping off of garages, crashing my bike, falling out of a tree, diving into the shallow end, contact sports.

Things that hurt my back now: Sneezing, mopping the floor, washing the dishes, brushing my teeth, tying my shoes, rolling over in bed.