



The Steeple Chimes

The E-Newsletter of The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn
497 Pulaski Road, Greenlawn, NY 11740

631-261-2150 www.greenlawnpresbyterianchurch.org

FaceBook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-of-Greenlawn

Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef, Pastor

October-November, 2022

Pastor's Message

My Beloved Church Family,

We had a wonderful 150th Anniversary celebration on Sunday, October 23. We started the day with a "Homecoming Service," and were delighted to have some guests and former members in attendance. The Communion Table was decked with fall flowers, choir sang, Four new members joined the church, Jack Knight played the 'cello, and General Presbyter of The Presbytery of Long Island, Rev. Mark Tammen, challenged us in his sermon to look to the future and ask ourselves what is next. We ended the Service by dedicating a Peace Pole on the front lawn of the church, which declares "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in eight languages.

Our celebration continued with a fellowship hour at The Lodge at Moose Hall, and then we sat down to a delicious luncheon prepared by Elder and Chef Gary Prentiss. Several proclamations from local politicians were on display, as well as a photographic exhibit. We recognized our longtime members and invited them to cut our anniversary cake. Entertainment was provided by the SpiritLifters.

This edition of The Steeple Chimes consists of an updated copy of our church history and a few articles and announcements. I hope you enjoy it!

With love and blessings,

Pastor Ann



Longtime church members cutting the 150th Anniversary cake

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 November 6, inclusive, **Meeting ID: 858 7167 3315, Passcode: 074489**

November 13 through December 25, inclusive, **Meeting ID: 890 3017 6533, Passcode: 380295**

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!

October 7 – Ann Beck
October 10 – Dawn Polcer
October 19 – Julie Hago
October 20 – Arlissa Dean
October 23 – Ken Longstreet
October 26 – Nancy MacIntyre
October 27 – Jim Dean
October 30 – Helen Kozlowski
October 31 – Kathie Gerlach
October 31 – Susan Perrotta

November 1 – Debbie Eitel
November 6 – Claire Proctor
November 9 – Marie Francis-Henry
November 9 – Michael Pennino
November 11 – Tyler Hago
November 29 – Geraldine Milk

December 7 – John Rixon
December 30 – Corinne Burdette



A History of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn

The following history was written, in part, in 1965 by Ruth (Mrs. Charles) Kissam, whose husband was the grandson of one of the founders of The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn. It was supplemented by a news item which appeared in the September 17, 1875 issue of The Long Islander, copied from the original newspaper at the Huntington Historical Society. A few additions were made by the committee that prepared the 100th Anniversary booklet in 1972. It has been updated once more for the 150th Anniversary celebration in 2022.

Some of our newer residents may not know that Greenlawn was originally called Old Fields. It was so called because cattle owned by villagers in Huntington were grazed here. In the 1800s and early 1900s, most of the land in Greenlawn was owned by a few families, and it was strictly a farming community. The main crops were pickles, cabbage, and green tomatoes, which were sold to four local pickle works which shipped the pickle products and sauerkraut to New York City.

1872 – 1876

According to well-authenticated records, the part of Suffolk County, Township of Huntington known as Old Fields (now Greenlawn), did not have facilities for attending divine worship until the year 1872. Previously, the people had to travel to Northport, Centerport, Huntington, or Dix Hills. The majority of the people were Presbyterian; churches of that denomination existed in Huntington and in Northport. The formation of a church suited to these particular creeds and views was a natural consequence that had been long wanting.

With the opening of the Long Island Railroad in 1867, there was a natural increase in inhabitants. Most of them came from cities and towns where churches were abundant. The need of a church was apparent immediately, but great difficulties were experienced before arriving at a successful conclusion. The community was not experienced in business activities and had never been involved in an undertaking where generous impulses and a community feeling were of primary importance.

A number of years previously, The Reverend Israel B. Smith was Pastor of a Presbyterian Church in Vernon Valley, currently in the East Northport area. After building up this church from a small beginning, he resigned for personal reasons and spent a brief time in Pennsylvania. Upon his return, he founded the First Presbyterian Church of Northport in the summer of 1860. This was a dedicated undertaking and its success reflected on him the greatest credit. With an annual salary of \$300, much of the cost of building the church came from his own funds. Many in the congregation were from Greenlawn.

When the Northport Church building was dedicated, the deed was held by the Pastor. This unusual irregularity caused immediate concern in the congregation. A faction occurred that criticized him severely and intimated that "he was securing to himself the peoples' money and thereby enriching himself at their expense." On this issue the congregation chose sides and lined up as his friends or enemies. An outcome was a petition to Presbytery to grant the combining of a small group with the people of Greenlawn for the purpose of establishing a new church. Since neither the Northport nor the Vernon Valley Church was self-supporting, the decision was made to combine the two congregations, and to grant permission for a new church. This was signed on May 7, 1872.

On August 30, 1872, The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn was incorporated. Services were held for a while in a building near the railroad depot, hired from P. H. Hoagland. The question of a new church was of primary importance, and a unanimity of feeling prevailed briefly. But quickly, difficulty arose over a decision as to a suitable site. Minor points of difference were "pertinaciously maintained." Plans for a building were submitted by Mr. H. Howarth and Mr. William Smith. These were approved by the congregation, but again a small faction opposed them as inadequate in size. The opposition was strong enough to delay active operations in both the purchase of the site and the progress on building plans.

Property was offered by Mr. Charles Kissam and agreed upon at a congregational meeting, but this, too, failed due to a lack of unity. (Note should be made here of possible error in recording of church Session records. At that time, there was an Elisha Kissam, who lived and owned property in Greenlawn and later in Centerport. A Charles Kissam was born in 1870 to Mr. and Mrs. Seabury Smith Kissam. They moved to Greenlawn around that time or a little later.)

In the spring of 1873. A committee of six members of each faction was formed to effect a compromise. Representing the congregation were George Brush, Alexander Rae, Rev. Israel Smith (the Pastor), Jonah Brown, Franklin Wicks, and George William Smith. Representing the opposition were H. Howarth, Henry

Gates, Homer Pierson, Oscar Brush, A.H. Pausell, and George W. Brown. Many descendants of these people still live in Greenlawn.

This committee met and finally decided on the property of George W. Smith, the present location on Pulaski Road. The purchase price was \$200. The Executive Committee of the church, Mr. Rae, Mr. Howarth, Rev. Smith, and Mr. Pausell, was now able to proceed "with full authority to complete the building." The original church was built by Mr. George Brown. Mr. Brown had just built a home on Broadway in Greenlawn, which was subsequently sold to Mr. S.S. Kissam. It is still a Kissam residence.

During this period of delay, church services were held at the home of Rev. Smith. On May 18, 1876, "The Lord's Supper was celebrated" in the new but unfinished building. In June, 1876, Rev. Smith retired due to ill health.

"The cornerstone of The First Presbyterian Church at Greenlawn was laid on Wednesday of last week. The exercises were very interesting. The Rev. Mr. Woodruff of Northport, Rev. Mr. Israel B. Smith of Greenlawn, and Rev. Mr. W.W. Knox of this village (Huntington) officiated and addressed the audience in a series of interesting remarks. A collection was taken up and a large portion of the expenses of the building subscribed for on the spot. It is the intention of the building committee to have the whole structure finished before the close of winter. The building will measure on the ground 34 feet wide by 54 feet deep with a tower on the front 10 feet wide and 65 feet high. The audience room will be 33 by 42 feet and 20 feet high. The design of the building is said to be beautiful."

Before the original building was finished, it burned. The pulpit was all that was saved. A new building was soon started on the same foundation, similar to the first building, but without a balcony. It was dedicated in November of 1878. This building was in continuous use until its demolition in 1960 to make way for the present larger edifice.

1876 - 1923

During the years from 1876 to 1929, the church had a number of pastors. Rev. Edwin Brown was called in 1879 at a salary of \$400, and served until 1885. He was followed by Rev. G. C. Clark who came in 1884 for \$450. Mr. Elliot Armstrong came for \$550 and served from June, 1886, to October, 1888. Rev. Samuel Greiss was Pastor from 1889 until July, 1890. In June, 1892, Rev. Fletcher Valentine was called for a short term at a salary of \$800. Rev. Conover Osborne also served briefly. He married a Greenlawn girl, Miss Mae Pierson.

In 1896, Rev. Frank Voorhees was ordained as Pastor at a salary of \$700. \$400 was paid by the congregation and the difference by the Board of Home Missions. The Session records note in 1896 that Miss Agnes E. Kissam, daughter of S. S. Kissam, presented herself as a candidate for admission to the church. The minutes do not record that Miss Kissam and Rev. Voorhees were married in September, 1900 in Greenlawn.

In November, 1898, Mr. Voorhees requested Presbytery to dissolve his relations with the church which was unable to pay his salary.

In the early 1900s, Greenlawn Village consisted of one general store, a butcher shop, post office, a farm machinery store, three hotels, and about ten homes. The hotels were for the convenience of salesmen who traveled Long Island by horse and buggy. On Smith Street, there was a blacksmith shop and on the Boulevard a large livery stable.

The first firehouse was on Gaines Avenue. This was burned to the ground in October, 1909, along with the Opera House, built one year before, and the Columbia Hotel.

Prior to 1910, Greenlawn had only a one-room schoolhouse. In that year, a two-room school was built. Then, in 1925, the original Broadway School was opened. All of our students had to go to Huntington for high school, until about 1957, when Harborfields High was opened.

During the twenty-five years between 1898 and 1923, the church was without a full-time Pastor. It was supplied on Sunday afternoons by Rev. C. G. Ellis, Northport, for two years, and then by Rev. Samuel Seem of Central Presbyterian Church in Huntington. Mr. Seem started on January 1, 1902, and remained until early 1923. At the start of his ministry here he was paid \$5.00 per Sunday, and drove from Huntington to Greenlawn with a hired horse and buggy.

1923 - 1953

In August, 1923, the church regained a full-time Pastor in Rev. Frank Brehme, who came for a salary of \$2,000. During his pastorate, a manse was built on adjoining property to the church. In January, 1929, he died after a short illness of pneumonia.

The next month, Rev. Theodore Frost started to preach. He became Pastor and was installed in October, 1929. Pulaski Road was not put through until about 1935. Before that, the road was called Oswego Street, a dirt road running from Broadway to Stony Hollow Road.

In the days we are writing about, the church was the principal center of activity. There were weekly prayer meetings at the church on Wednesday evenings. The Young People's Christian Endeavor Society, which met at the church on Sunday evenings, was an active group, though it consisted mainly of girls and women with very few men attending. These ladies also conducted many social affairs, such as church socials, usually held at homes of the members. Each year there was usually a Church Fair held on the grounds behind the church, using its horse shed for cover. Later, with the advent of the automobile, the horse shed was converted into a Sunday School room and hooked up to the rear of the church. In this building with rather meager facilities (such as a two-burner kerosene stove), the ladies of the church ran the annual church supper, which was attended not only by our members, but by people from all the surrounding communities. There was also an annual Strawberry Festival at which local berries and home-made cakes were served and sold. For many years, Mrs. Rae held these affairs on the lawn of her home. These dinners and festivals were the main sources of revenue for meeting church expenses.

Also, there was the Missionary Society which over the years helped in the support of various individual missionaries. One of these aided was Dr. Eva, who maintained the *Home for Homeless Boys* in New York City. Another was Miss Elizabeth Lagervelt in her work at Thousand Sticks, Kentucky, in the Appalachian Mountains.

Food, clothing, and sometimes money were furnished. In later years there was a Needlework Guild, which made and collected children's garments, baby layettes, etc. for the needy.

Sunday School classes were held in the church Sanctuary until the renovation of the carriage shed, which then became the Sunday School and General Purpose Room for socials, Scout meetings, etc.

One of the highlights of the Sunday School year was the annual beach picnic, held usually at Fleets Cove, Centerport, or sometimes at Crab Meadow. In the earliest days, transportation was furnished by Lessam's stagecoach.

In spite of Depression years, a new organ was installed and dedicated in 1935. The church was repaired and redecorated in 1939, and again in the early 1950s. Rev. Frost continued as Pastor until his death in 1953. His daughter, Dorothy, remained an active member and supporter of our church.

1954 - 1962

In February, 1954, The Rev. Leon Flanders came to Greenlawn as Pastor. Membership at that time was 137. The post-war population expansion was beginning to create severe stress and strain on the community of Greenlawn, and on the church. Two church Services were inaugurated on Sunday mornings. Plans for a new Christian Education building were formulated. The cornerstone was laid in October of 1955, and the building was ready for use in January, 1956. It was immediately rented to School District # 6 for use during the week

over the next year and a half at \$500 per month. Policy was established that the use of the building be restricted for religious, charitable, educational, and civic purposes. An open house was held during February of that year and a dedication Service occurred later in the spring.

During the fall of 1957, plans were begun to purchase a new manse. After consideration of all possibilities, a decision was made to move the existing manse to a new location on Fenwick Street at a cost of \$19,245.

Miss Victoria Mott was hired in July, 1959, as Christian Education Director at a salary of \$5,000.

In January, 1959, plans were started for the construction of a new church building. The Flood property was purchased for \$12,000, and two acres of land were bought from the adjoining Bartel farm at \$7,000. Smith-Heller, an architectural firm in New York, was hired to plan the new Sanctuary at a cost of \$240,000.

In May, 1960, Miss Mott left. In July, 1960, Mr. Robert Hooper was called as Assistant Pastor.

Ground was broken for the new church in November, 1960. The old building, which had been a landmark in the little community for more than eighty years, was demolished. This was to the distress of many of the older members, many of whom had helped to preserve the old in expanding for the future. The cornerstone ceremony was held in May, 1961. Sunday Services were held in the Christian Education building until the fall of 1962, when the new church was sufficiently finished for use. The dedication Service was held on December 2, 1962.

This dedication was incorporated into a 90th Anniversary Celebration of the church's history, which included a dinner at the Vernon Valley Inn. Early members were honored guests, two of whom had been members since 1895.

1963 – 1972

During 1963, the surrounding Bartel property was sold to a developer who donated one-half acre of land for a parking area in the rear of the church. The Flood house was repaired and made available for church and school use. Mr. Hooper left for a full-time pastorate. He was replaced by Mr. Jeffrey Wood in 1964. An extensive Junior High program was inaugurated by Pastor Flanders with classes held during the week. This had received widespread recognition for its success, and grew to include the intermediate age as well as the high school group.

In the mid-1960s, the congregation saw the need for expansion of the physical plant adjoining the church. The building was used on Sunday afternoons by the Greek Orthodox Church during their building program, located about a mile east on Pulaski Road. During the week, the Christian Education building was used by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) for instruction of handicapped children. On Sunday afternoon, December 12, 1965, the Huntington Choral Society presented *The Messiah* in the church.

In its first hundred years of existence, The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn prided itself in standing as an important landmark and a contributing factor in an ever-changing and enlarging community. After the initial concern and shock to the older members passed away and healed, most agreed that architecturally, the church was a beautiful building, elegant in its simplicity and good taste, moderately modern in design. Many felt that it managed to combine the dignity and conservativeness of the past history, together with the functionalism and mode of modern living, to create a peaceful quiet in the midst of a tense and fast-moving world.

Rev. Jeffrey Wood left as Assistant Pastor in October, 1966. Rev. Robert E. Duncan was installed as the first Associate Pastor on September 17, 1967. He resigned on January 31, 1972. By the time the church celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 1972, the church had 1,100 members.

1972 – Present

Rev. Flanders left shortly after the 100th Anniversary Celebration of our church. Rev. Harry B. Barrow served as Interim Pastor for a year, and was followed by Rev. G. Robert Geyer in 1974. He left in 1979, and Rev. Frank Svoboda served as Interim Pastor for a year.

Rev. Garret E. Albertson joined us in October, 1980, and served for eighteen years. He is now retired, and lives in North Carolina. Rev. Michael Imperiale served as his Associate Pastor from September, 1974, to April, 1989. He left us to become a Senior Pastor in New Jersey, and is now retired in Nevada.

Rev. Robert E. Duncan served as Interim Pastor from February, 1998 to January, 2001. He was followed by Rev. James Thyne, from 2001 – 2004. Rev. James Black served as Interim Pastor for a year, and was followed by Rev. Anthony (Tony) Roberts in 2005. He left in 2008 due to health reasons.

Rev. Frederick (Fred) Woodward came in 2008, and retired in February of 2020. Rev. Dr. Ann Van Cleef, a United Church of Christ Pastor, came out of retirement to fill the pulpit for what everyone thought was going to be twelve weeks. Two weeks into her tenure, the COVID-19 pandemic forced the temporary closure of all houses of worship in the country. Dr. Van Cleef and the congregation learned quickly to embrace technology, and within two weeks, were worshipping via Zoom. By the time the church reopened in September of 2020, she and the congregation had fallen in love with one another, and she agreed to stay on for an indefinite amount of time.

With a membership of 55, The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn prides itself on being a true community church. We offer meeting space at no charge to Scouting organizations. Twelve-step groups meet in the church on a daily basis, and a Hispanic congregation uses meeting space as well. A fall Church Fair, a winter Christmas Tea, and a winter Christmas Fair not only support the ministries of the church, but offer the community opportunities for items at bargain prices as well as fellowship.

Sunday Services are traditional in nature, with a strong emphasis on prayer, preaching, and excellent music, featuring piano and organ music, guest soloists, and our choir.

The church supports the following charitable organizations:

Presbyterian:	One Great Hour of Sharing The Pentecost Offering Peace and Global Witness Christmas Joy (for retired clergy and missionaries)
International:	Mercy Ships
Youth:	Long Island Youth Mentoring
Long Island:	Island Harvest Harry Chapin's Long Island Cares
Local:	Huntington Helping Hands Rescue Mission

Additionally, our Little Food Pantry, located on the church grounds, is available to the community 24 hours a day.

In the early 1970s, church membership peaked at approximately 1,200 members. Sadly, for many reasons, membership began to decline. By the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, we had 50 members.

But like the mythical phoenix rising from the ashes, we are making a comeback. New members are joining the church, the building is undergoing a rejuvenation, and we are increasing our outreach to the community.

Our prayer is that The First Presbyterian Church of Greenlawn will continue to stand strong in the community that surrounds us, providing a place for worship, a place for service, and a place for peace for many years to come.



Prayer Corner

Submitted by Betty Chatfield

LIFE IS...

~From ONE compiled by D. Zadra & K. Yamada

LIFE IS either a daring adventure or nothing at all.
~Helen Keller

LIFE IS a song. Love is the music. ~Cindy Vail

LIFE IS a glass given to us to fill. ~William Brown

LIFE IS a splendid gift. There is nothing small
about it. ~Florence Nightingale

LIFE IS not a problem to solve, it's a gift to cherish.
~Don Ward

LIFE IS something to be in, not something to get
through. ~Dustin Hoffman

LIFE IS to be felt, not figured out. ~Thomas Hardy

LIFE IS what we are alive to. It is not length but
breath. ~Maltbie Babcock

LIFE IS a verb, not a noun. ~Charlotte Gilman

LIFE ISN'T all golf. ~Tiger Woods

LIFE IS a chance to grow a soul. ~A. Powell
Davies

LIFE IS the childhood of eternity. ~Goethe

LIFE IS but a day at most. ~Robert Burns

LIFE IS what you make it. Always has been,
always will be. ~Grandma Moses

The purpose of life is to discover your gift.
The meaning of life is to give your gift away.
~David Viscott

*Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the
eternal life
to which you were called when you made your
good confession in the presence of many witnesses.*
~1 Tm 6:12

What life means to us is determined
not so much by what life brings to us
as by the attitude we bring to life;
not so much by what happens to us
as by our reaction to what happens.
~Lewis L. Dunnington

THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS

*Lord be with us on this day of thanksgiving.
Help us make the most of this life we are living.
As we are about to partake of this bountiful meal.
Let us not forget the needy and the hunger they feel.
Help us to show compassion in all that we do
And for all our many blessings we say thank You.*
-Helen Latham

*Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts
with praise.
Give thanks to Him; bless His name.*
Psalm 100:4

A PRAYER BY MY MOTHER, CECELIA VAN CLEEF

Our Father, be our light when the way is dark.
Be Thou our courage when we are afraid.
Be Thou our strength when flesh is weak.
Be Thou our security when the world is shaken.
Be Thou at all times our hope and our solution.
Amen

~Submitted by Bob Van Cleef

Fall Worship at FPC Greenlawn

September 4 was Labor Day Weekend. The sermon was about the blessings of work. Communion was served.

On September 11, we observed the 21st anniversary of 9/11.

September 18: We all know the Golden Rule. The sermon was titled, “Doing Unto Others.”

September 25: The poor man and the rich man in Luke 16 both die. With whom do you identify?

October 1 was World Communion Sunday. The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper was celebrated; the sermon title was “Sunday Dinner.”

October 9, we unpacked the Parable of the Ten Lepers with a sermon titled “It Ain’t Easy Being Different.”

October 16, we heard about the way the Pharisee and the tax collector prayed. The sermon was called, “Jesus Turns Things Upside-Down. Again.”

October 23, we celebrated our 150th Anniversary. Rev. Mark Tammen urged us to celebrate the past, enjoy the present, and think about the future.

October 30, we observed Reformation Sunday. The sermon reviewed the history of the Reformation.



Looking Ahead:

November 6: “Questions for Jesus.” The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper will be celebrated

November 13: Stewardship Sunday.

November 20: Thanksgiving Sunday

November 27: Advent I

December 4: Advent II

December 11: Advent III

December 18: Lessons and Carols

The Blessing of the Pets



We blessed our pets twice this month!

The weather was pretty miserable on October 1, so we posted “Pet blessing postponed to next week” on our church sign. But pets can’t read, and eight dogs and one rabbit showed up at church with their owners! (See photo above.)

The following week, two dogs and their owners came to church and received a blessing. Afterwards, Pastor Ann blessed a sick dog in the back of his owner’s car.

Our pets are indeed a gift from God and a blessing to us.

Update on September Church Fair

Our Church Fair took place on Saturday, September 24. We grossed \$3,800. Some of the money was used to offset expenses associated with our 150th Anniversary celebration.

Many thanks to Larry Foray and his team for a job well done!



Our Christmas Fair will take place in the Narthex on Saturday, December 10, from 9 to 3. As part of our Christmas Fair, we will be selling gently used Christmas decorations. Most of us have boxes of Christmas “stuff” in our attics and basements that we haven’t used in years, and probably will never use. If that’s the case with you, please gather them up and give them to Pastor Ann.

Christmas Tea

Our Christmas Tea will take place on Saturday, December 3, at 1:00 p.m. in the CE Hall. Tickets are \$25. People are invited to dress up and wear hats is they wish.



Tickets may be purchased during coffee hour. We thank Jill Wilson, who has graciously volunteered to chair this event.

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols Service will be held on Sunday, December 18, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, at 10:30 a.m.



This Service tells the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus. It is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the Prophetic Books, and the Gospels, and is interspersed with the singing of Christmas

carols, hymns, and other music.

The original format was based on an Order of Worship for Christmas Eve, 1880, in Cornwall, England. It is said that a key purpose of the Service at that time was to keep men out of the pubs on Christmas Eve!

The Service at FPC Greenlawn will be based on the one at *The King's College* in Cambridge, England, where the nine lessons are read by representatives of the congregation and of the local community. We already have several community leaders who have agreed to read.

This will be a very inspiring Service of worship. Please plan to attend, and invite a friend!

Christmas Eve Service

We will have one Christmas Eve Service this year, at 7:00 p.m. It will be simulcast on Zoom.

The Service will end with the traditional lighting of individual candles held by the congregation, while "Silent Night" is sung by those in attendance. We welcome everyone to this Service.

Christmas Tree Lighting

Mark your calendar! On Sunday, December 18, at 5:00 p.m., we will have a special community event: we will light our new Christmas tree outside, sing some Christmas carols, and then come inside for some hot chocolate and Christmas cookies. Please plan to attend, and invite a friend.



Christmas Day Service

Our Christmas Day Service will be a short prayer Service broadcast on Zoom at 10:30 Christmas morning. Grab your coffee and your Christmas stollen and join us! Log-on information will be in next month's *Steeple Chimes*.

Welcome, Leonora Knight

We would like to welcome our new Worship Accompanist, Leonora Knight, to our church family. (No, the name Leonora was not a requirement for the position. God indeed has a sense of humor!)

Leonora hails from Long Beach, NY, where she studied piano and voice. She is a graduate of NYU Tisch School of the Arts with a BFA in acting through the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute. She continued to study voice privately, perform in bands publicly, and began teaching voice and piano at the Sam Ash Institutes in Edison, NJ and in New York City.



Currently, Leonora teaches voice and piano in her East Northport home, where she lives with her husband, Jack. She is the owner of Lee Knight's Interactive Concerts where she performs her original songs for libraries and elementary school assemblies.

Leonora has been with us since September 26, and we have been enjoying getting to know her.

Christmas Poinsettias



Once again, we will offer our church members and friends the opportunity to dedicate a Christmas poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one.

Poinsettias are \$12 each, and may be taken home after our Christmas Eve Service.

An order form will appear in next month's *Steeple Chimes*. However, if you would like to order early, just tell us how many poinsettias you want, to whom you are dedicating them (in honor of a living person or in memory of one who has passed) and mail a check to FPC Greenlawn, 497 Pulaski Road, Greenlawn, NY 11740.

Our Session

Recording Clerk

Susan Perrotta

Class of 2023

Diane Kirchoff

Gary Prentiss

Class of 2024

Arlissa Dean

Kathleen Gerlach

Craig Satterlee

Class of 2025

Debbie Eitel

Larry Foray

Susan Perrotta

Our Staff

Rev. Dr. Ann M. Van Cleef – Pastor
Leonora Knight – Worship Accompanist
Leonora Colletti - 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

Peace Pole Dedicated

Our new Peace Pole, a 150th Anniversary gift from Pastor Ann and Bob Van Cleef, was dedicated as part of our Anniversary celebration on Sunday, October 23. Our Peace Pole declares “May Peace Prevail on earth” in eight different languages:

- English – the language of the United States as well as the language of England, the country that gave birth to us.
- Spanish – the language of Central and much of South America, and the language of many who are living in our area today.
- Hebrew – one of the languages of the Bible, and the language of Judaism, one of the three Abrahamic faiths.
- Greek – one of the languages of the Bible, and the language of many of our neighbors in Huntington Town.
- German – the language of science and learning, and the ancestral language of many of Greenlawn’s citizens.
- Korean – The language of 650 Korean Presbyterian churches in the United States today, the result of the mission outreach of the Presbyterian Church on the Korean Peninsula.
- Italian – the language music and culture, and the ancestral language of many of the citizens of our area.
- French – spoken on five continents, and the international language of diplomacy and dance.





Seniors Helping Seniors

By: Pastor Ann

One of our church members suggested that The Steeple Chimes run a regular column with advice and hints that will help those of us who are Seniors enjoy our Golden Years.

I would love it if we could get some volunteers to contribute to this column.

Coffee filters ... who knew! You can buy hundreds at the dollar store for almost nothing, even the large ones.

- Cover bowls or dishes with them when cooking in the microwave.
- Clean windows, mirrors, and chrome. Coffee filters are lint-free, and they'll leave everything sparkling.
- Protect china by separating your good dishes with a coffee filter between each dish.
- Filter broken cork from wine. If you break the cork when opening a wine bottle, filter the wine through a coffee filter.
- Protect a cast-iron skillet. Place a coffee filter in the skillet to absorb moisture and prevent rust.
- Apply shoe polish. Ball up a lint-free coffee filter.
- Recycle frying oil. After frying, strain oil through a sieve lined with a coffee filter.
- Weigh chopped foods. Place chopped ingredients in a coffee filter on a kitchen scale.
- Hold tacos. Coffee filters make convenient wrappers for messy foods.

More next month.

I always carry a pebble with me to throw at people who sing Christmas songs before Thanksgiving. I call it my jingle bell rock.

I am writing a book about the things I should be doing in my life. It's an ought-to-biography.

I bought a new pair of shoes with memory foam insoles. No more forgetting why I walked into the kitchen!

Two things to make your day better: (1) Do not watch the news. (2) Stay off the bathroom scale,

What type of person doesn't love pizza? A weird-dough.

It's that time of year when other girls look cute in their flannel, and I look like I've misplaced my axe.

I lost my hair years ago but I still carry a comb. I just can't part with it.

We keep a potato masher in a drawer because sometimes it's fun to not be able to open that drawer.

Stephen King writing about living in New England: "The old man who ran the town dump communed with darkness. He kept a Hand of Glory in a 1982 Boston Bruins mug. Crows and bats were to his command."

Me, after moving to New England: "Holy Mackerel! I used to think that Stephen King made that stuff up!"

Target thinks I want to put up my Christmas tree and eat my turkey while wearing my Halloween costume.

I'm not totally useless. I can be used as a bad example!