

First Presbyterian Church
60 East Main Street
Oyster Bay, NY 11771



With doors wide open, we welcome all to come and
discover how God's love in Christ connects us more
deeply with each other, our community,
the world and with God.

With arms wide open, we welcome all who are
looking for something more, who have questions,
who want to make a difference as they learn, serve
and reach out in word and deed.

With hearts wide open, we welcome you.

~ Open Doors - Open Arms - Open Hearts ~

The Presbyterian Times

60 East Main Street, Oyster Bay, New York 11771
The Reverend Dr. Jeffrey D. Prey, Pastor

October 2026



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

60 East Main Street

Oyster Bay, New York 11771-2411

PHONE: (516)922-5477

E-mail: officefpcob@optonline.net

Web Site: www.oysterbaypresbyterian.org

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Ministers	The People of God
Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Drew Prey
Administrator	Cristina Harrison
Organist/Choir Director	Jessica Chen
Custodian	Wayne Placella

OFFICERS

Clerk of Session	Cathy Hogg
President, Board of Trustees	Richard Kveton
Moderator, Board of Deacons	Catherine Ber
Secretary of Deacons	David Harrison
Treasurer	Kristine Lalonde
Sunday School Superintendent	Cristina Harrison

SESSION

George Baker	Church Support, House
Jim Brundige	Church Support
Selina Collier	Mission
Heather Franciotti	House
Isa Gutierrez	Worship, Membership & Outreach
Christopher Hogg	Christian Education
Richard Kveton	Church Support
Jerry Lalonde	Church Support
Jennifer Newitt	Worship
Dan O'Hare	House
Mia Ramirez	Christian Education
Catherine Thomas	Mission

BOARD OF DEACONS

Catherine Berg	Flowers, Sanctuary Care
Ya Ming Chen	Helping Hands, Outreach
David Harrison	Audiovisual
Deborah Hudak	Coffee Hour, Helping Hands, Special Needs
Liz Hux	Flowers, Special Events
Kristine Lalonde	Outreach
Janet LaRotonda	Kitchen Care, Special Events
Gilbert Lim	Coffee Hour
Eileen Pollitt	Sanctuary Care
Scott Powell	Greeters/Ushers
Edna Standerwick	Greeters/Ushers
Steve Wasilchuk	Outreach

MINISTRIES

Pastoral Care and Visiting (Holy Communion, prayer, spiritual counsel...): Jeff wants you to know that he is available for you when needed. When you would like to share some time in Christian conversation and prayer with the pastor, please let him know. Jeff would welcome a visit with you.

Church Membership: If you are a newcomer to First Presbyterian Church, you are invited to consider church membership. Jeff welcomes the opportunity to receive you in Christian friendship. Please let him know when considering membership at the First Presbyterian.

The Presbyterian Times is a monthly publication (except in August) of the First Presbyterian Church of Oyster Bay, New York. Items for inclusion should be received in the church office no later than the 20th of the month. All articles are welcome, but may be edited for length and content.

Editor & Publisher: Cristina Harrison

FROM JEFF'S DESK...

What's your story...?

Life is a story. Or, rather, a series of stories. "What's your story?" is a question we like to ask each other. Your story, like everyone else's, has a specific arc to it: birth, childhood, education, work, family, and eventually death—but every story is different.

You can't tell your story without telling other stories. You are someone's son or daughter, a friend or coworker, parent or grandparent. Your story is woven in with other stories. And all of these stories are part of even larger stories, until we come to the grand story overarching it all—God's story.

This series tells the stories of some prominent people in the Bible. They are specific stories set in a specific time, but they are always more than that. They are not only the stories of Jeremiah or Ruth, but the stories of God's interaction with people.

As we ask how each of these people fit the time in which they lived, we must ask the same question of ourselves: How do we fit into the time in which we live? What is our time? To what is the Lord calling us? God called out something from within each of the people we'll focus on—something that was needed at that moment in the history of the coming of God's kingdom. God still does this, drawing out of us something—perhaps, like Moses, something we didn't know we had—for the sake of the kingdom.

What's your story...? What might it be...?

TREASURER'S REPORT

AUGUST 2026

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

AMT. RECEIVED	AVG. MONTHLY EXPENSE	OVER/(UNDER)
\$19,463	\$27,750	(\$8,287)
YTD RECEIVED	YTD EXPENSE	OVER/(UNDER)
\$195,231	\$214,449	(\$19,218)

MISSION FUND SUMMARY

AMT. RECEIVED	AVG. MONTHLY PMT.	OVER/(UNDER)
\$660	\$1,733	(\$1,073)
YTD RECEIVED	YTD PMT.	OVER/(UNDER)
\$21,073	\$7,550	**

** MISSION DISBURSEMENTS ARE MADE QUARTERLY.

STEWARDSHIP

Tithing Is Trusting

Some people say, "I wouldn't dare tithe. I'm afraid I just couldn't make it."

What they are really saying is, "I wouldn't dare to trust God. That is too risky. It would scare me to death to trust God."

And perhaps they are right, at least for themselves. If you cannot trust God, then you cannot tithe; it will worry you to death.

But the other side of that same argument is that if you cannot trust God with your financial problems, you will probably be worried to death all the time anyway. Not tithing won't stop your anxiety about money.

Giving your money for God's work is not basically a financial transaction between you and the church but a spiritual relationship between you and your creator. If you can figure out on a piece of paper how you can afford to tithe, you've missed the whole point of tithing. Tithing is a matter of faith and trust, not arithmetic.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Matthew 6:21

UPCOMING EVENTS

October...

2	Sunday School Communion Workshop	5:30 -6:30 p.m.
4	World/Family Communion Sunday	10:00 a.m.
	Congregational Meeting	11:10 a.m.
	C.E. / Sunday School Meeting	11:30 a.m.
	Personnel	11:30 a.m.
5	What Presbyterians Believe - AI	7:30 p.m.
6	Deacons Meeting	7:00 p.m.
7	House Ministry Team Meeting	7:00 p.m.
10	Community Dinner	5:00 p.m.
11	Compassion Christmas Joy kick-off	
12	Church Support Meeting	7:00 p.m.
17	Oyster Festival - Valet Parking	10 - 4:00 p.m.
18	Guest Preacher - Ken Pollitt	
	Oyster Festival - Valet Parking	11 - 4:00 p.m.
20	Session Meeting	7:30 p.m.
25	Guest Preacher - Ken Pollitt	
	Compassion Christmas Joy due	

Coming up:

All Saints Day/Memorial Sunday	November 1
Daylight Savings Time ends	
Holiday Fair Set-Up	November 15
Holiday Fair	November 21
St. Andrew's Day/1 st Sunday in Advent	November 29



Jeff is Away
October 22 - October 30



Community Meal

Meals are provided free of charge to guests of the Senior Center and
People Loving People Food Pantry.

October 10, 2026
5:00 p.m.

Contact Jerry Lalonde:

Email galalonde@aol.com

Text or call cell 516-297-7773

OR

Contact Selina Collier:

Email Selina_collier@fa.org

Call 516-759-1168

CONGREGATIONAL CALL

THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF OYSTER BAY, NEW YORK, ARE CALLED TO MEET ON
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 2026 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
THE WORSHIP SERVICE TO TAKE ACTION ON A PROPOSAL
TO SELL THE VACANT LAND.

SESSION NOTES

SESSION REPORT FROM THE SEPTEMBER 15TH MEETING

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Oyster Bay held a regular meeting on September 15, 2026.

MODERATOR'S REPORT: Communion was celebrated on Sundays July 5 and September 6, 2026, as authorized by standing resolution of December 16, 2025.

Jeff performed the baptism of Rory Colavito, son of member Carly Koster Colavito and Pat Colavito, at the church on July 19, 2026.

Jeff performed the wedding of Richard Hanley and Delores Shimmons on Aug. 29, 2026 at the church.

A Memorial Service and reception were held for Richard Murcott on August 1, 2026 at the church.

Session approved Jeff's request for vacation time from October 22 – 29.

A group of church members including Jerry and Cliff Chabina have been working for a number of years on the issue of trying to sell the vacant lot owned by the church located behind the parking lot. An appraisal was done and Jerry advised Session that a number of offers have been received, with a highest and fair offer from a local contractor. Jerry advises accepting this offer and Session voted to recommend to the congregation that they approve the sale of the property. Session further called a Congregational Meeting for October 4, 2026 for the membership to hear all details of the contract and vote on this proposed sale. Once approved by the congregation, the proposed sale also must be approved by Presbytery and the State of New York.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: The committee will meet October 4 to start reviews for the year. After that date they will submit to Session any recommendation regarding Jeff's Pastoral Call, and the Session will vote on that recommendation at the October 20 Session meeting. The approved Call will then be submitted to the Committee on Ministry.

THE CONGREGATION IS INVITED TO JOIN ALL MINISTRY TEAMS!

Please contact one of the elders in charge if you are interested in joining that committee.

Ministry	Team
Christian Ed	Elders – Chris Hogg & Mia Ramirez
House	Elders – George Baker, Heather Franciotti & Dan O'Hare
Worship	Elders – Isa Gutierrez & Jen Newitt
Church Support	Elders – George Baker, Jim Brundige, Richard Kveton & Jerry Lalonde
Mission	Elders – Selina Collier, Catherine Thomas & Clerk, Cathy Hogg
Membership & Outreach	Elder – Isa Gutierrez & Deacon Deborah Hudak

DEACON NOTES

DEACON'S REPORT FROM THE SEPTEMBER 1ST MEETING

We received a note from the Murcott family thanking the church family for the wonderful reception following Richard's memorial service.

The Deacons voted to give \$1000 from the Deacons fund to the Life Enrichment Center for an advertisement in the gala's playbill.

The Deacons approved an anonymous Silver Star request for \$1500.

The Blood Drive will be held on September 22nd.

Rally Day is on September 13. The Deacons need to make calls to bring sides, salads or desserts. We will grill hot dogs and sausage.

Carol Johnson's service will be on Saturday, September 19th, at 11:00. The Deacons will set up the fellowship hall for the reception. It was mentioned that we could bring flowers to honor Carol. Carol's family will cater a light meal, and we will provide plates and napkins.

Jeff will officiate the Mullane/Schmidlapp wedding on September 26th.

Ed Jentz is recovering at the Gurwin rehab center.

BEST EVER Blood Drive

To our 
Life Savers

We collected  47 units.

Thank you to the Outreach Committee (Janice, Kris & Steve)
and to our volunteers. The next Blood Drive will be in January.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



"Back to School"

Another wonderful Rally Day for our Sunday School on September 13th. How delightful, although the weather wasn't so nice we certainly did it... A big pumpkin bouncy house and picnic inside. It was wonderful to see such joyous enthusiasm among our students. And their teachers. And their parents!



Yes, dear parents, we Sunday School Teachers literally couldn't do it without you! We were really thinking that as we were stating our loving commitment to our Sunday School together with you on Rally Day. So, we are off to an excellent start in Sunday School. And so, we are also in "Bookies," "What Presbyterians Believe" and, now a new small group study initiative spearheaded by Steve Collier.



BOOKIES

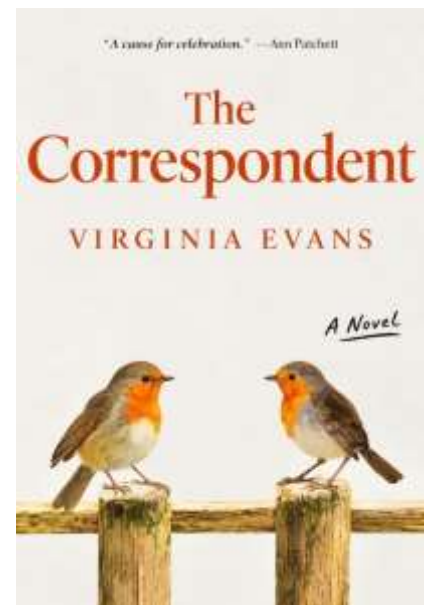
This month The Bookies will be meeting on
Tuesday, October 27th at 6:30 PM to discuss
The Correspondent, by Virginia Evans.

The Correspondent is a relatively short novel made up entirely of letters written by Sybil Antwerp, who uses her letters to people she knows and people she admires "to make sense of the world and her place in it," that is, until letters from someone in her past force her to examine a painful period in her earlier life.

Critics say the book is "filled with knowledge that only comes from a life fully lived, *The Correspondent* is a gem of a novel about the power of finding solace in literature and connection with people we might never meet in person. It is about the hubris of youth and the wisdom of old age, and the mistakes and acts of kindness that occur during a lifetime."

Even if you haven't joined us before, whether you read the book or listen to it, consider coming on Tuesday night. Our meeting is always an evening of excellent food (feel free to bring something to add to our potluck dinner) and wonderful conversation

See you then, Joan and Stephen.



Compassion Christmas Joy



Together, we can ensure every Compassion child feels seen, loved and celebrated at Christmas.

100% of Children

Served by Compassion can receive a Christmas gift through generous supporters like you.

2.3 million

Children across 29 countries (and counting) are celebrated through our Christmas Joy Fund.

Gifts

Are carefully selected for each child by staff at Compassion centers around the world.



Every child receives a gift.

When you give to the Christmas Joy Fund, your donation is combined with others to purchase gifts for all children in our program.

Personalized for each child.

Staff at child development centers personally know each child and select gifts based on their needs and wishes.

Meaningful gifts.

The most powerful gift is showing a child they're valued, especially at Christmas. Your gift may include toys, school supplies, clothing or even a Bible of their own.

Donations are due October 25th, 2026

*Please make checks payable to the
First Presbyterian Church,
noted Compassion Christmas
Thank you!!*



HOLIDAY FAIR

November 21st, 2026

10:00 – 4:00 p.m.

We are busy preparing for our re-imagined Holiday Fair
Featuring... Holiday Décor, Home Goods (from “Sanctuary” &
“Youngs Farm” among other quality donations) a Baked Goods Table and –
“the Silent Auction”.



Here is a list of some of the exciting offerings we have had in the past,
and hope to offer again,



- ☆ Florida Condos available for vacation stay ☆
- ☆ Guided Nature Walk in local preserve ☆ Gift Certificate to Area Eateries ☆
- ☆ Jewelry ☆ Sporting Collectibles ☆ Assorted Gift Baskets ☆
- ☆ Electronics ☆ Fashion Accessories ☆ Vintage/Designer Handbags ☆ Artwork ☆
- ☆ Round of Golf ☆ Professional Consulting ☆
- ☆ Tickets to a Sporting Event, Theater, Broadway Show, Concert ☆



And the list keeps growing!!!!

- ☆ Silent Auction ☆ Holiday Decorations ☆
- ☆ Baked Goods ☆ Shabby Chic ☆ Cafe ☆
- ☆ Home Décor ☆ Music & More ☆

“Many hands make light work”

Here's some ideas for how you can help...
Can you help set-up, prepare, and/or help “run the show” on Saturday?

- ☒ Do you have gifts you received and never used, or things you purchased and not used?
- ☒ Can you make gift a basket or two?
- ☒ Did you get a gift card and have not used it; maybe you just don't shop there. Donate it, we can add it to a basket.
- ☒ Can you distribute flyers and posters?
- ☒ Do you have time to bake... Our Bake table needs cookies, pies, cakes, cupcakes, and brownies anything you like to bake.
- ☒ Bring friends and family.



MISSION MATTERS

Thank you to everyone who continued to bring in much needed food donations during the summer months.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

The Food Pantry donations will continue to be collected on the First Sunday each month or anytime and delivered to local food pantries.

These are the most asked for items:

Pasta, Pasta sauce, Diced Canned Tomatoes	Mac & Cheese 2 pound or smaller bags of Rice
Boxed rice mixes	Canned Vegetables - low sodium preferred
Canned Beans, Stews, Soups & Chili	Cereal & Oatmeal
Peanut Butter, Jelly or Jam	Kids' Snacks
Coffee & Tea	Gatorade Juice Boxes

The People's Pantry, 123 Audrey Avenue, Oyster Bay, NY 11771

Accepting donations on Wednesdays from 12:00-6:00 and Fridays from 9:00-1:00

Shopping: Senior Wednesdays 2:30-3:00; Community Shopping

Wednesdays 3:00-6:00 & Fridays 10:00-12:00

To volunteer, go their website at <https://peoplelovingpeople.net/volunteer-form>

North Shore Community Church Food Pantry, 209 South St, Oyster Bay, NY 11771

Accepting donations at church office (on the corner) on Thursday and Friday between 10:00-3:00, or Saturday morning at the back door of the church between 9:00-10:00.

Shopping: The Pantry is open for shopping every Saturday morning from 9:00-10:00

NOSH Food Pantry/North Shore Soup Kitchen

NOSH is currently accepting donations of non-perishable food at its new permanent home:

15 Hill Street, Glen Cove

weekdays between 9:00-1:00 (closed Wednesday and weekends)

North Shore Soup Kitchen has re-opened and is accepting donations for its food pantry at First Baptist Church, 7 Continental Place, Glen Cove, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings between 9:00 – 12:00

Mimi Mernin's Food Pantry, Village Church, Bayville, 9 Mountain Avenue, Bayville, NY

Donations may be left in a bin at the back of the Church which is emptied daily.

516-628-2737

Thanks for helping us to help our neighbors!

The Mission Outreach Ministry Team



Lay Reader and Flower Charts

The Lay Reader and Flower Charts need you...

Please consider signing up;
ample opportunities available.

This is a great way to serve your Church.



October...

4 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World/Family Communion Sunday
Scripture: Genesis 40:1-8
Romans 12:14-21
Sermon: "What's Your Story? - Joseph"

11 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture: Joshua 7:1-10
Revelation 7:9-12
Sermon: "What's Your Story? - Joshua"

18 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture: Deuteronomy 4 excerpts
1 Corinthians 11: 23-29
Sermon: "Never Forget!"
Guest Preacher: Ken Pollitt

25 Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture: Deuteronomy 25:13-16
Luke 5: 27, 32
Sermon: "A Most Suspect Apostle"
Guest Preacher: Ken Pollitt

