

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

September 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

Summer Office Hours: Wednesday - Friday,
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 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 Berg
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...

Did you know that September 13 is *National Back to Church Sunday* - "a national church event that happens on the 2nd or 3rd Sunday of September each year where the churches of America come together to invite their communities to church"? We just call it "Rally Day." I'm kind of thinking a "national" day might be more impressive...

Would it be impressive enough to encourage you to invite a friend?

Would it be impressive enough for you to be here ("come back," I guess...) and sit with that friend? Note - there will be food and a bouncy house afterward, so...

Does it have to be impressive enough for all that (because, isn't a bouncy house enough...)?

It does beg the question of why do we need a "back to church" Sunday, when we were here all summer. Except, of course, for those weeks where I was gone, and maybe you were gone - on vacation, etc. Okay, I get it... So - let's celebrate the start of the new "church year" - as it fits in with the rhythm of our lives, and helps us connect with the church year that is built around the rhythm of Jesus' life.

Let's celebrate the warmth and fellowship we find among each other, and the opportunities to multiply our impact in the community and the world as we "come back together," and - go out to serve.

Let's celebrate the questions our children are not afraid to ask, and listen in as together - we draw closer to an understanding of what all God has for us.

Let's celebrate what we've done while away, and share a little of the joy that we found.

Let's invite a friend to discover what we've discovered, and to begin (maybe even - begin again...) a journey that leads to life and peace and purpose.

Let's "come back" - because this is our home, this is where we belong. We're open - and we'll save a seat for you...

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER...

1	Deacons Meeting	7:00 p.m.
6	Communion Worship	10:00 a.m.
	C.E./Sunday School Meeting	11:30 a.m.
7	Labor Day - Office is Closed	
8	Bookies	6:30 p.m.
12	Community Dinner	5:00 p.m.
13	Rally Day - A Kickoff Event for Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
	Cookout & Carnival	11:15 a.m.
15	Session	7:30 p.m.
19	A Celebration of the life of Carol Johnston	11:00 a.m.
22	Blood Drive	1:45 - 7:45 p.m.

Coming Up in October

2	Sunday School Communion Workshop
4	World Communion Sunday
17 & 18	Oyster Fest Parking
31	"Hallelujah Night" Roller Skating





Community Meal

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

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

September 12, 2026

5:00 p.m.

STEWARDSHIP

Chocolate Years

"A Harvard University report suggests that men who indulge in chocolate live longer. The study of 7,841 Harvard grads found that chocolate and other candy eaters live almost a year longer than those who abstain. The report in Friday's *British Medical Journal* speculates that antioxidants in chocolate have health benefits." [Lubbock Avalanche Journal, 12-21-97]

We do not distribute chocolate during our worship services, but we do something better. Other medical studies indicate that people who give generously to help others are both emotionally and physically healthier. They also live longer as a result of that attitude and behavior.

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

Matthew 6:21

TREASURER'S REPORT

JUNE & JULY 2026

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

AMT. RECEIVED

\$59,357

AVG. MONTHLY EXPENSE

\$55,440

OVER/(UNDER)

\$3,917

YTD RECEIVED

\$175,768

YTD ACTUAL EXPENSE

\$190,973

OVER/(UNDER)

(\$15,205)

MISSION FUND SUMMARY

AMT. RECEIVED

\$2,797

AVG. MONTHLY PMT.

\$3,275

OVER/(UNDER)

(\$478)

YTD RECEIVED

\$20,413*

YTD ACTUAL PMT.

\$4,259*

OVER/(UNDER)

**

* INCLUDES THRIFT FAIR

** MISSION DISBURSEMENTS ARE MADE QUARTERLY

SESSION & DEACON NOTES

SESSION AND DEACONS DID NOT MEET DURING JULY AND AUGUST.

Please consider joining one of the many Session Ministry Teams. There is always much work to be done, and we welcome your ideas and your participation. September is a great time to get started - we need all your energy and talents! There is a place for everyone. Consider joining us in Mission Outreach, Christian Education, House Committee, Worship, or Membership and Outreach. Talk to the Session member in charge of each Team to find out more. Check the website and the Sunday bulletin for the schedule of their Ministry Team meetings.

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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CAMP



"Rainforest Falls - Exploring the Nature of God"
was our VBS theme this year!

We tried something new. A new week and only 3 nights (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) July 20th, 22nd and 24th.

Our nights were filled with music, bible adventures, games, imagination station activities, videos and of course snacks. A new addition was dinner first. We collected money for Compassion International. And as always,

the ice cream sundaes were a hit on our last evening. An interesting observation is, we had the children, but not many volunteers. Thank goodness for Grace, Paige, Angelina, Cameron and Isabella.

A great time was had by all.
Many thanks to all our volunteers.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



After a wonderful summer, we Sunday School Teachers are so looking forward to seeing our beloved students again. And we are all ready and excited to get going!

See you on Rally Day!

BOOKIES

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

~ the Bookies ~

at 6:30 PM - discussing

~ *A Founding Mother* ~

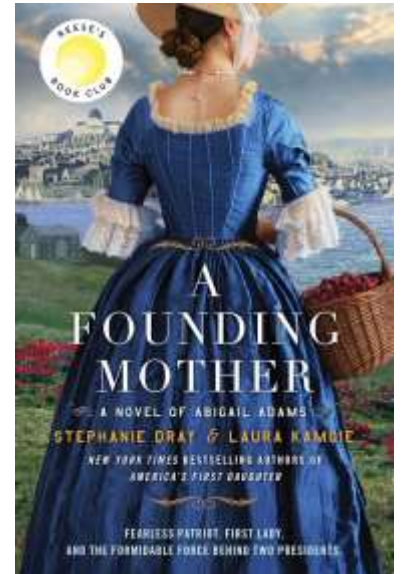
According to Amazon --

"In time for the 250th Anniversary of the birth of the United States comes a sweeping, intimate portrayal of Abigail Adams—wife of one president and mother to another—whose wit, willpower, and wisdom helped shape the fledgling republic. A stunning historical novel with modern-day implications from the New York Times bestselling authors of *America's First Daughter* and *My Dear Hamilton*."

~ In the heart of revolutionary Boston, Abigail Adams raises her children amid riots, blockades, and the outbreak of war. While her husband, John Adams, rises from country lawyer to nation-builder, often away for years at a time, Abigail builds her own independence—managing their farm, making lucrative investments, amassing savings, battling plague and loss, and defending their home. Unafraid to speak her mind, she famously offers fearless political counsel, urging John to "remember the ladies" in the new government. Through it all, she becomes his most trusted confidante and indispensable ally. ~

Even if you have not joined us for Bookies before, consider reading this book, and, if you can, join us for food and discussion on Tuesday, September 8 at 6:30. It is something special.

See you then, Joan.



COMMUNITY DINNERS

September starts our Fifth Year of serving dinners to our community on the second Saturday each month.

It has been a great success. We serve good food and have great entertainment. Our staff of volunteers are fantastic, Selina and Jerry are great organizers, Gilbert and Mitch have entertained us with their guitars and voices, Maria McCumiskey stepped in to cover for them during the summer.

Big thank you to all who make our dinners a great success!!



BLOOD DRIVE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

60 EAST MAIN STREET, OYSTER BAY

Tuesday, September 22nd, 2026

1:45 to 7:45 p.m.

Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo.

Masks are required for all donors regardless of vaccination status. [Visit nybc.org/coronavirus](https://nybc.org/coronavirus) for complete COVID-19 safety protocols. Please note that Appointments are strongly encouraged.

Go to www.nybc.com/donate



800.933.BLOOD • nybc.org



#nybloodcenter

Lay Reader and Flower Charts



The Lay Reader and Flower Charts are quite empty...
Please consider signing up;
ample opportunities available.



This is a great way to serve your Church.

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
Boxed rice mixes
Canned Beans, Stews, Soups & Chili
Peanut Butter, Jelly or Jam
Coffee & Tea

Mac & Cheese 2 pound or smaller bags of Rice
Canned Vegetables - low sodium preferred
Cereal & Oatmeal
Kids' Snacks
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

September...

6 Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Communion Worship

Scripture: Psalm 26:1-8
Romans 14:1-12

Sermon: "Judge Not...?"

20 Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Scripture: Genesis 1:26-31
Ephesians 2:4-10

Sermon: "Magnifica Humanitas"

13 Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Rally Day Worship

Scripture: Joel 2:30-32
Romans 10:5-15

Sermon: "The Gospel According to Grok"

27 Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Scripture: Esther 4:
Matthew 16:24-26

Sermon: "What's Your Story? - Esther""

