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



MISSION STATEMENT

***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

November 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	**MINISTRIES**
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	**MINISTRIES**
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

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...

Max Lucado writes:

Gratitude gets us through the hard stuff! To reflect on your blessings is to rehearse God's accomplishments. To rehearse God's accomplishments is to discover his heart! To discover his heart is to discover not just good gifts but the Good Giver. Gratitude always leaves us looking at God and away from dread. The apostle Paul said, "Give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 5:20 NLT).

The surest path out of a slump is marked by the road sign, Thank you. But what of the disastrous days? Grateful then? Jesus was. "On the night when he was betrayed," Scriptures says, "the Lord Jesus took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it" (1 Corinthians 11:23-24 NLT). How often do you see the words betrayed and thanks in the same sentence—much less in the same heart?

Give thanks…and see what happens.

Treasurer's Report

September 2026

General Fund Summary

Amt. Received	Avg. Monthly Expense	Over/(Under)
$25,577	$27,750	($2,173)
YTD Received	**YTD Expense**	**Over/(Under)**
$220,808	$247,344	($26,536)

Mission Fund Summary

Amt. Received	Avg. Monthly Pmt.	Over/(Under)
$360	$1,733	($1,373)
YTD Received	**YTD Pmt.**	**Over/(Under)**
$21,433	$10,825	**

** Mission disbursements are made quarterly.

Congregational Call

The Members of The First Presbyterian Church of Oyster Bay, New York, in accordance with its bylaws, are called to meet on Sunday, November 15, 2026, immediately following the worship service for the purpose of receiving the report of the Nominating Committee and electing Elders and Deacons to three-year terms on Session and Board of Deacons.

Upcoming Events

November...

1	Daylight Savings Time Ends	2:00 a.m.
	Memorial Sunday, All Saints Day Communion Worship	10:00 a.m.
	C.E./Sunday School Meeting	11:30 a.m.
	Confirmation Class	11:30 a.m.
3	Deacons Meeting	7:00 p.m.
6	Habitat Faith Built	
14	Presbtery Day at Smithtown	
14	Community Dinner	5 - 7:00 p.m.
15	Congregational Meeting	11:05 a.m.
	Holiday Fair Set-up	11:30 a.m.
17	Session	7:30 p.m.
21	Holiday Fair	10:00 - 4:00 p.m.
22	Harvest Sunday Worship	10:00 a.m.
	Confirmation Class	11:30 a.m.
	Pageant Practice	11:30 a.m.
26	Thanksgiving Day	
27	Office is Closed	
29	First Sunday of Advent/St. Andrew's Day Communion Worship	10:00 a.m.

Coming up...

Hanging of the Greens - Advent Brunch	December 6
Children's Christmas Pageant	December 13
Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 & 9:30	December 24





Community Meal

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

November 14, 2026
5:00 – 7:00 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

Stewardship

A Truly Permanent Investment

Many people get a charge out of giving large sums of money to build and improve church buildings, and that is a great feeling. We certainly need them. We must have them.

But when we give money to the operating budget of the church, we are giving our money for something that lasts much longer than a building. Money invested in bricks and mortar will last perhaps forty or fifty years— sometimes more than one hundred years. But when we invest money in programming for our young people and children, how long does that last? For eternity, that's how long. It lasts for generation after generation, as the spark touched in young people burns on in their children, their grandchildren, and forever.

Bricks and mortar eventually crumble to dust. Worship centers deteriorate and grow old-fashioned. But people go on forever. When you invest in them, you are buying something that will keep paying dividends in perpetuity.

An old Chinese proverb says, "If you plant for years, plant grass. If you plant for decades, plant trees. If you plant for centuries, plant people."

When we celebrate the success of the stewardship campaign that puts together next year's church budget, we are celebrating an achievement that will be here longer than you or me, longer than any building we could construct.

"*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*" *Matthew 6:21*

Session Notes

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Oyster Bay held a regular meeting on October 20, 2026.

CLERK'S REPORT: Session called the Annual Fall Congregational Meeting. Session to be held on November 15 after worship.

Cathy and Jeff will meet soon to conduct the bi-annual review of the membership roll.

MODERATOR'S REPORT: Communion was celebrated on Sunday October 4, 2026, as authorized by standing resolution of December 16, 2025.

Jeff performed the wedding of Mallory Mullane and Carl Schmidlapp IV on September 26, 2026 at the church.

Jeff noted with joy that he also performed the wedding of his son Austin Prey to Alyssa Landau on October 17, 2026.

On September 19, 2026 Jeff performed a Memorial Service for Carol Johnston at the Church. Carol passed away on June 25, 2026.

Presbytery has been advised that at the Special Congregational Meeting held on October 4, 2026 the congregation approved moving ahead with the sale of church property, as recommended by Session. The proposed sale will be considered and hopefully approved at the November 4 Presbytery Trustees meeting, and then at the November 14 General Presbytery meeting.

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 and Mia Ramirez
House	Elders - George Baker and Heather Franciotti
Worship	Elders - Isa Gutierrez and Jen Newitt
Church Support	Elders - George Baker, Richard Kveton and Jerry Lalonde
Mission	Elders - Selina Collier, Catherine Thomas and Clerk, Cathy Hogg
Membership & Outreach	Elders - Deb Hudak & Dan O'Hare

Deacon Notes

Report from October 6th, 2026 Deacons Meeting
First Presbyterian Church of Oyster Bay

Rally day went well even though it was raining. Having it inside didn't dampen our spirits.
Carol Johnson's service and the following reception were appreciated by her family.
We collected 47 units for the blood drive, a very good showing. We may hold another one in January
Memorial Sunday will be November 1.
We discussed the Holiday Sharing Program starting next month.
Advent brunch will be on December 6th.

Christian Education

Hard to believe that our Sunday School Pageant is already on the horizon. Well, it is coming up on Sunday December 13! Our Sunday School community is starting to get excited. Soon we will be having music practices for our children, and the practice schedule, seen below. We hope to have as many of our children involved as possible. So please let Jeff Prey, Elaine Palmer or Mia Ramirez know if your child would like to participate.

Our Sunday School students have settled into the school year and the halls of our Sunday School are abuzz with excitement. Mia is hard at work with her younger students on Moses and how he saved his people from slavery in Egypt. Father and son, Harold and Nat Kingsley, have teamed up on middle school. They are using updated materials which their class is clearly enjoying. Steve Collier has a vibrant Junior Class (with a couple 9th graders) which is focused on the Gospel of John.

Both "Bookies" and "What Presbyterians Believe" are going along strongly.

Christmas Pageant

Children's Christmas Pageant
December 13, 2026



Pageant rehearsal schedule:

Sunday	11/ 22	after church	11:30
Sunday	11/ 29	after church	11:30
Sunday	12/6	after church	11:30
Saturday	12/12	Dress Rehearsal	9:45 – 12:00
Pageant Sunday	12/13	Final Rehearsal	8:45

St. Andrew's Day

We will be celebrating our Presbyterian Scottish Heritage on Saint Andrews Day, Sunday, November 29th.

On August 17, 1560, reformer John Knox and five of his colleagues presented the first reformed Confession of Faith written in the English language to the parliament of Scotland. "The Scots Confession", as it is now known, united all of Scotland in its politics and in the church. This is the birth of the Church of Scotland, and we - Presbyterians - became a new denomination of Christians.

We will celebrate our heritage in descent from the Church of Scotland. Part of our worship service litany, will come from "The Scots Confession" and Church of Scotland, and we will have special Scottish Music.

To be part of the Day:

- *Wear your kilts or tartans, plaids in a pinch (you may know the difference - all tartans are plaids, but not all plaids are tartans) or other Celtic patterns*
- *Invite or Bring a friend, coworker or neighbour of Scottish descendent to church*
- *Come & Enjoy the "The Ceilidh" (Scottish Celebration) at our Fellowship.*
- *Share a favourite Scottish food, treat, or recipe.*

"Aye Yours"...

HABITAT FAITH BUILD

Early this Fall, we were able to attend the dedication of the Habitat for Humanity home we have been working on these past few months in Wyandanch. It was such a joy to see our hard work come to fruition. But, much more importantly, it was such a joy and honor to be part of Christianity in action. The home we built has changed the lives of the family who will live in it.



Shinita, the homeowner, is a single parent with three children. Prior to moving into their new home, Shinita and her three children crowded into a two-bedroom rental apartment. Shinita served three terms of duty in the military in the Middle East and Europe. For some years, she has been working as a paralegal for the town of Islip.

To be clear, Habitat does not give its homes away. The homeowners have to earn their home. First, with "sweat equity," working on the construction of their own home and those of others. Second, the Habitat homeowners have to be able to afford their new home. Habitat ensures that the new homeowners have the means to pay the taxes on the property and on the low interest mortgage they assume to buy it. This wisdom of helping people to help themselves has driven the worldwide growth of Habitat for Humanity.



The Habitat homes we have worked on in Wyandanch are also helping to change that community. For decades, Wyandanch has been challenged with urban decay and crime. Now, New York State and Local Government are focused on turning Wyandanch around. They have made significant investment in new housing and business locations. And the community is transforming. Each Habitat house we help build supports this transformation. We have seen what the Habitat officials tell us: when a Habitat house is built on any given street, that street starts to upgrade. The other homeowners look after their houses better. And property values start to increase.

So, we plan to stay focused on working with Habitat to build new houses in Wyandanch. Habitat has a number of sites in backlog. So, we will have plenty to do in the foreseeable future. We already have a wonderful dedicated team of builders in our Church family. But we could always use more. Don't worry, you don't have to be an expert builder, just a willing worker. The Habitat officials we work with provide excellent supervision and encouragement. And workplace safety is a major focus.



Our Church is leading a partnership of three Churches which also includes Christ Church from across the road and St John's in Cold Spring Harbor. **Our next build is on Friday, November 6.** And we will have plenty of others in the New Year. If you are interested in joining our team, please let Jeff Prey or Chris Hogg know.

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 [illegible]d 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.



Holiday Fair





We need people to make either Harvest Vegetable Soup or Chili for the luncheon
Recipes can be found at this link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bfDf8oruvAtIejimMtYjlkwUMaxyaDUy/view?usp=sharing

or scan the QR code below
or pick up a recipe from Jen Newitt at church.
Please email Jen at Jennifer_newitt@fa.org to let her know if you are able to help make either one. Thanks!





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

November…

1 All Saints Day Memorial Sunday
Communion Worship
Scripture: Jeremiah 29:1-14
Matthew 7:7-12
Sermon: "What's Your Story?: Jeremiah"

8 Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture: Exodus 33:7-11; 34:29-35
Sermon: "What's Your Story?: Moses"

15 Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Congregational Meeting
Scripture: 1 Kings 19:9-18
2 Corinthians 12:7-10
Sermon: "What's Your Story?: Elijah"

22 Christ the King
Scripture: Daniel 2: 14-47
Ephesians 2:14-22
Sermon: "What's Your Story?: Daniel"

29 First Sunday in Advent
St. Andrew's Sunday
Communion Worship
Scripture: Isaiah 1:15-17
James 1:19-27
Sermon: "What's Your Story?: James"



Happy Thanksgiving!