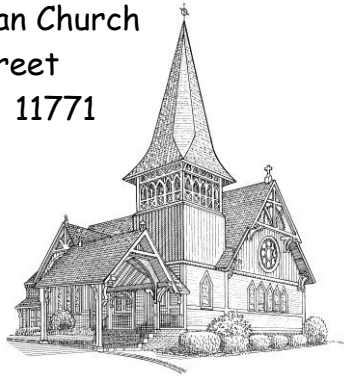


First Presbyterian Church  
60 East Main Street  
Oyster Bay, NY 11771



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
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PERMIT 80

***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

*March 2023*

*LENT*  
*A Time to*  
*Renew*



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

60 East Main Street

Oyster Bay, New York 11771-2411

PHONE: (516)922-5477 FAX: (516)922-5496

E-mail: officefpcob@optonline.net

Web Site: www.oysterbaypresbyterian.org

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9:30 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	Manuel Denegri

### OFFICERS

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

### SESSION

Efrain Azmitia	House
George Baker	Church Support, House
Selina Collier	Mission
Heather Franciotti	House
Christopher Hogg	Christian Education
Deborah Hudak	Membership & Outreach
Richard Kveton	Church Support
Richard Longworth	Worship
Dan O'Hare	Membership & Outreach
Kenneth Pollitt	Worship
Mia Ramirez	Christian Education
Judy Wasilchuk	Mission, House, Christian Education

### MINISTRIES

### BOARD OF DEACONS

Pat Azmitia	Ushers
Barbara Catalano	Helping Hands, Special Events,
	Kitchen Care
Stephen Collier	Special Events
Randy Ecton	Greeters
David Harrison	Audiovisual
Nathaniel Kingsley	Sanctuary Care
Gilbert Lim	Coffee Hour
Janice Longworth	Outreach
Jane Byrd McCurdy	Ushers
Eileen Pollitt	Sanctuary Care
Meline Purdy	Special Events, Kitchen Care
Edna Standerwick	Coffee Hour
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

Production:

Isa Gutierrez

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# FROM JEFF'S DESK

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From a Lenten series in "Reformed Worship" Journal, I share the following:

"Modeled after Jesus' forty days in the desert, Lent is a time to become more open to God through the vulnerabilities of life... hoping to taste God's promised provision in the deserts of life."

In our own experience, the concern of ancient Israel resonates in our hearts: "Can God really spread a table before us in the presence of global and personal fears and sorrows? The answer, of course, is yes! God spreads a table before us in the wilderness, in the face of all our greatest fears (Psalm 23.5)."

We will look at one biblical character each week, along with the way God provided for them in their wildernesses.



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## TREASURER'S REPORT

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### JANUARY 2023

#### GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

AMT. RECEIVED	AVG. MONTHLY EXPENSE	OVER/(UNDER)
\$24,132	\$26,550	(\$2,418)
YTD RECEIVED	YTD EXPENSE	OVER/(UNDER)
\$24,132	\$23,522	\$610

#### MISSION FUND SUMMARY

AMT. RECEIVED	AVG. MONTHLY PMT.	OVER/(UNDER)
\$6,566**	\$2,100	\$4,466
YTD RECEIVED	YTD ACTUAL PMT.	OVER/(UNDER)
\$6,566	*	*

\* MISSION DISBURSEMENTS ARE MADE QUARTERLY.

\*\* INCLUDES INITIAL ANNUAL GIFT.

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# STEWARDSHIP

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## *Givers Receive*

The Gospel of Luke tells us that Jesus said “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back” (Luke 6:39).

We do not give in order to get something back from God. That would be a form of spiritual selfishness likely to damage us more than help us. Yet, the Bible is clear—in both the Old Testament and the New Testament—that we will receive in the same measure that we give. Our offerings each week in worship do more than help with God’s work. They also give God a chance to deliver on that promise from Scripture.

*“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

*Matthew 6:21*

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### MARCH...

1	Lunch Study	12:00 p.m.
2	Baby & Me Group	10:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.
5	<b>1st Sunday in Lent</b>	
	Communion Worship	10:00 a.m.
	C.E./Sunday School M.T. Meeting	11:30 a.m.
7	Deacons	7:00 p.m.
8	Bookies	6:30 p.m.
9	Baby & Me Group	10:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.
11	Community Dinner	3:00 - 6:30 p.m.
12	<b>Daylight Savings Time Begins</b>	
	Communion Workshop	
	Worship M.T. Meeting	11:30 a.m.
15	Lunch Study	12:00 p.m.
16	Baby & Me Group	10:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.
21	Session	7:30 p.m.
23	Baby & Me Group	10:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.
25	Memorial Service for William Prey (Zoom Available)	
26	Mission M.T. Meeting	11:30 a.m.
29	Lunch Study	12:00 p.m.
30	Baby & Me Group	10:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.



**Don't be late to church  
Set your clocks ahead One Hour**

### Coming Up...

Palm Sunday	April 2	Paschal Supper	April 6
Good Friday	April 7	Easter	April 9
Joint Deacons/Session Meeting - 4/18			



**Congratulations to grandparents Ken & Eileen on the birth of their granddaughter  
Evangelyn Diem, born on February 16<sup>th</sup> to Elyse and Zack.**

**And**

**Congratulations to grandparents Efrain and Pat on the birth of their granddaughter  
Isabella Alexandra Mack, born on February 18<sup>th</sup> to Grace and Justin.**

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# DEACON NOTES

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## DEACON'S REPORT FROM THEIR FEBRUARY 7 MEETING:

The Blood Drive was held on January 10, we netted 28 pints of blood.

The Annual Meeting was held immediately after the January 29th service. A Pot Luck luncheon followed the meeting, which was thoroughly enjoyed with a wide variety of food.

Deacons were selected to serve on the nominating committee.

A service for Jon Johnston was discussed for February 18 at 11:00. The deacons will provide coffee, tea and brownies.

Jeff announced that this is the 150th year anniversary of the church building. A celebration will need to be planned.

We provided feedback on the modified communion that was shared on Sunday.

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# SESSION NOTES

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## SESSION REPORT FROM THE FEBRUARY 21 MEETING:

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Oyster Bay held a regular meeting in person and on Zoom on February 21, 2023.

CLERK'S REPORT: Cathy advised that Session approved via email vote the 2022 annual statistical report for the General Assembly. She has submitted the report and will include it in the book of minutes.

MODERATOR'S REPORT: Those in the New Members class will attend the March 21 Session meeting to meet with Session as required, and hopefully will join the church soon thereafter.

HOUSE COMMITTEE: After discussion, Session approved spending up to \$2,500 to purchase an AED device, and Session also will arrange for training in the use of the device.

ELDER TRAINING: Jerry Lalonde is organizing the Session retreat to be held on April 15. We will review the SWOT analysis and other work resulting from the long range plan. We also can start planning for the September 150th anniversary of the sanctuary.

WORSHIP MINISTRY: Worship has a busy schedule ahead as we enter the season of Lent and Easter. On Ash Wednesday, February 22, there will be a service at 7:30 pm. On March 12 parents and children in Sunday School may attend a Communion Workshop to prepare the children to participate in communion. April 2 is Palm Sunday, the Worship team is working with CE and Jessica on involving children in music for the service. We will hold a Paschal Meal this year on Thursday, April 6. On Good Friday April 7 there will be Tenebrae service. Easter Sunday April 9, there will be a sunrise service at Sagamore and a regular service at 10:00 am.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Mia circulated minutes from a very busy meeting. CE is looking for more Sunday School teachers and substitutes. So far no one has stepped forward. CE is working on a handbook for parents. The team also is focused on increasing attendance for Sunday School. Adult Ed classes are going well, Jeff is starting a new Wednesday lunch study group using the successful "What Presbyterians Believe" topics he has used with the Monday night group.

### 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 – Efrain Azmitia, Heather Franciotti and Judy Wasilchuk
Worship	Elders – Dick Longworth & Kenneth Pollitt
Church Support	Elders – George Baker & Richard Kveton
Mission	Clerk - Cathy Hogg & Elders - Selina Collier & Judy Wasilchuk
Membership & Outreach	Elders - Deb Hudak & Dan O'Hare

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# SUNDAY SCHOOL

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We are looking for Church family members to  
join us  
in the joy of Sunday School teaching.

Please let Mia, Chris or Jeff know  
if you have any interest.

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## BOOKIES

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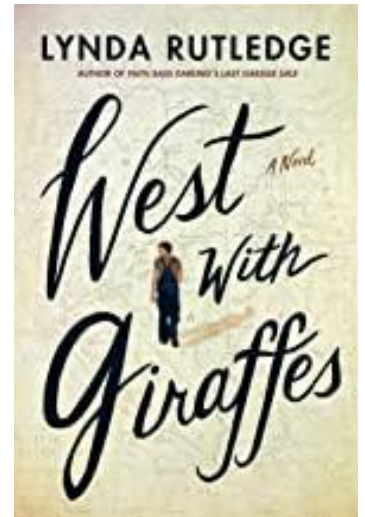
Our next Bookies book is... West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge

**March, 8 2023 AT 6:30 pm.**

This is an emotional novel inspired by the incredible true story of two giraffes who made headlines and won the hearts of Depression-era America.

Woodrow Wilson Nickel, age 105, feels his life ebbing away. But when he learns giraffes are going extinct, he finds himself recalling an unforgettable experience he cannot take to his grave.

It's 1938. The Great Depression lingers. Hitler is threatening Europe, and world-weary Americans long for wonder. They find it in two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic. What follows is a twelve-day road trip in a custom truck to deliver Southern California's first giraffes to the San Diego Zoo. Behind the wheel is a young Dust Bowl rowdy named Windrow. Inspired by true events, the tale weaves real-life figures with fictional ones, including the world's first female zoo director, a crusty old man with a past, a young female photographer with a secret, and assorted reprobates as spotty as the Giraffes.



Part adventure, part historical saga and part coming-of-age love story, West with Giraffes explores what it means to be changed by the grace of animals, the passing of time, and a story told before it was too late. **Join us on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2023 AT 6:30 pm.** For the discussion and food of the book. No, we won't be eating giraffes, unless I can find it!!!

This will be an unforgettable journey that you don't want to miss.

See you then,  
Joan

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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Thrift Fair  
Flea Market  
May 13th, 2023

Vacation Bible School  
July  
17th - 21th



More information will follow.



# ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS

### HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

**FEBRUARY 22, 2023 – APRIL 9, 2023**

*In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression*

Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

## We are there

Jesus teaches us in Matthew 25, that in every time and season, the Church connects with itself and its Savior through relationships with those who have least. For over 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has partnered with others to take action to share God's love. Through these three life-saving programs, we are there to advance the causes of justice, resilience and sustainability.

### **PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

*Restore Streets to Live In*

### **PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM**

*Share Bread with the Hungry*

### **SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE**

*Loose the Bonds of Injustice*



*Please give what you can.*

**IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!**



## Community Meal

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

### **You can help in one of two ways:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1) Help with setup &amp; serving - tasks will include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Setting up tables and chairs</li><li>Checking in guests</li><li>Serving prepared meals to up to 80 guests</li><li>Cleaning up, taking down tables and chairs</li></ul> <p>Contact Jerry Lalonde:<br/>Email <a href="mailto:galalonde@aol.com">galalonde@aol.com</a><br/>Text or call cell 516-297-7773</p> | <p><b>2) Bake simple desserts such as brownies or cookies:</b></p> <p>Contact Selina Collier:<br/>Email <a href="mailto:Selina_collier@fa.org">Selina_collier@fa.org</a><br/>Call 516-759-1168</p> |
|---|--|

**March 11, 2023**  
**3:00 – 6:30**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



We are forming a Committee to prepare for

## Paschal Dinner

Thursday, April 6th

6:00 pm

### MENU

Roast Lamb  
Roasted Potatoes  
Peas & Onions  
Matzah  
Maror (bitter herbs)

Can you help with Set-up, Clean-up?

**YES! - I (We) plan on attending**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Number in your party \_\_\_\_\_

(see Jeff or a member of the Worship Committee)



**Please note** - that we are planning to move our Monthly Newsletter to "online delivery and access only" by this summer.

We will email *The Presbyterian Times* monthly, and - post it on our website, thereby saving paper, lowering our carbon footprint, and - saving on postage.

If you'd prefer that we continue mailing a hardcopy of the Newsletter to you, we ask that you **"opt in"** by making that request. You can just reply to this email to do so. We understand that not everyone is comfortable with a "fully online life," and want to provide preferred options.

## **Food Pantry donations for March**

*Back to Dinner time – here is a list of the most needed foods  
to help families eat a healthy dinner!*

Diced and other canned tomatoes	Canned or bagged beans
Pasta, Ramen	Rice a Roni
Tomato Sauce (15oz cans)	Canned Chef Boyardee spaghetti
Canned stews & chili	products
2 pound or smaller bags of rice	Canned Tuna
Canned vegetables	Soups
(low sodium preferred)	Peanut butter

**Bring donations up on Sunday during the Children's' Message,  
drop off at the Church anytime during the week when the office is open,  
or take them to the local pantry most convenient to you:**

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

Accepting donations on Wednesdays from 12-6 and Fridays from 9-1 pm. There also is a locked donation box in the back of our building to allow for donations when we are not there. Please call for instructions on how to leave donations in the donation box. 516-945-9738

Shopping: Senior Wednesdays 3 pm-6 pm; Community Shopping Fridays 11 am-3 pm  
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 10-3,  
or Saturday morning at the back door of the church between 9-10.

Shopping: the pantry is open for shopping every Saturday morning from 9-10

### **NOSH Food Pantry/North Shore Soup Kitchen**

NOSH is currently accepting donations of non-perishable food at its new permanent home:  
32 School Street (back entrance), Glen Cove - weekdays between 9am-1pm  
(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 9am and noon.

### **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!**

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## *March...*

5 Second Sunday in Lent  
Communion  
Scripture: Exodus 16:1-12  
Sermon: "A Table in the Wilderness for Israel"

12 Third Sunday in Lent  
Scripture: Genesis 21:8-20  
Sermon: "A Table in the Wilderness for Hagar"

19 Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Scripture: I Kings 19:1-8  
Sermon: "A Table in the Wilderness for Elijah"

26 Fifth Sunday in Lent  
Scripture: John 3:1-21  
Sermon: "A Table in the Wilderness for David"

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