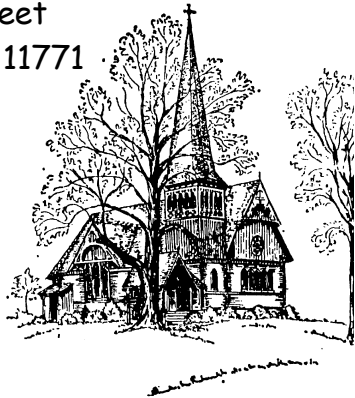


First Presbyterian Church  
60 East Main Street  
Oyster Bay, NY 11771



*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

### *May 2026*



# 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, 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	Manuel Denegri

## 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

Church Support, House  
Church Support  
Mission  
House  
Worship, Membership & Outreach  
Christian Education  
Church Support  
Church Support  
Worship  
House  
Christian Education  
Mission

## MINISTRIES

Flowers, Sanctuary Care  
Helping Hands, Outreach  
Audiovisual  
Coffee Hour, Helping Hands,  
Special Needs  
Flowers, Special Events  
Outreach  
Kitchen Care, Special Events  
Coffee Hour  
Sanctuary Care  
Greeters/Ushers  
Greeters/Ushers  
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...

---

Paul's letter to the Romans helps us see what a difference Christ's resurrection and ascension make in the lives of believers, and highlights the role the Holy Spirit plays in our daily striving to become more like Christ.

In Romans Paul paints, in broad strokes, histories of the Gentiles and the Israelites. Both include a good deal of futility, sin, and death. What distinguishes Israel's history is an underlying hope—a hope that finds its fulfillment in Jesus Christ, who, by his death and resurrection, definitively changes the course of cosmic history. The resurrection demonstrates God's power to overcome futility, forgive sin, defeat death, and open up a new future for the whole of creation. The new future, embodied in the risen and ascended Christ, comes to us through the Holy Spirit's activity in us and through us.

We will explore this letter over the coming weeks, and see how we can embody that new future in our lives.

---

## STEWARDSHIP

---

*"If the life of a river depended only on the rain that falls within the confines of its own banks, it would soon be dry. If the life of an individual depended solely on his own resources, he would soon fall. Be grateful for your tributaries" [Up Words, William Arthur Ward]*

*Someone asked Helen Keller, "What would be worse than being born blind?" She replied, "To have sight with no vision." [John Maxwell] When we give to God's work, we are saying that we have a vision for what God can do with that money and what God can do with us because we give that money.*

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

*Matthew 6:21*

---

## TREASURER'S REPORT

---

### MARCH 2026

#### GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

AMT. RECEIVED	AVG. MONTHLY EXPENSE	OVER/(UNDER)
\$25,457	\$27,645	(\$2,188)
YTD RECEIVED	YTD ACTUAL EXPENSE	OVER/(UNDER)
\$69,363	\$86,691	(\$17,328)

#### MISSION FUND SUMMARY

AMT. RECEIVED	AVG. MONTHLY PAYMENT	OVER/(UNDER)
\$934	\$1,800	(\$866)
YTD RECEIVED	YTD ACTUAL PAYMENT	OVER/(UNDER)
\$10,093	\$3,275	**

\*\*MISSION DISBURSEMENTS ARE MADE QUARTERLY.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## May...

- |    |  |                  |
|----|--|------------------|
| 2  | Thrift Fair  | 9:00 - 2:00 p.m. |
| 3  | Worship & Sunday School<br>Guest Preacher: Ken Pollitt   | 10:00 a.m.       |
|    | C.E./Sunday School Meeting                               | 11:30 a.m.       |
| 5  | Deacons  | 7:00 p.m.        |
| 9  | Community Dinner   | 5:00 p.m.        |
| 10 | Happy Mother's Day!<br>Communion Worship & Sunday School | 10:00 a.m.       |
| 12 | Bookies  | 6:30 p.m.        |
| 18 | IHNC Awards Dessert at Christ Church                     | 7:00 p.m.        |
| 19 | Session  | 7:30 p.m.        |
| 24 | <u>Day of Pentecost</u>                                  |                  |
| 25 | Memorial Day - Office is closed                          |                  |
| 31 | A Celebration of the Life of Anne Evans                  | 12:00 p.m.       |



### Community Dinner

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](mailto:galalonde@aol.com)

Text or Call (516) 297-7773

OR

Contact Selina Collier

Email [selinaacollier@gmail.com](mailto:selinaacollier@gmail.com)

Call (516) 759-1168

May 9, 2025

5:00 p.m.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

*We thank you for your generosity, \$1,173 was raised*

---

# SESSION NOTES

---

## SESSION REPORT FOR THE JOINT MEETING APRIL 14, 2026

The Session and Deacons held their annual Joint Meeting in the church on April 14, 2026. Per our custom, each board met separately first at 7:00 pm, then joined together at 7:30 pm.

MODERATOR'S REPORT: Communion was celebrated on Sunday, March 29, 2026, as authorized by standing resolution of December 16, 2025.

Jeff reported with joy that Thomas and Olivia Pojero joined the church at worship on Sunday, March 22, 2026 and that on Sunday, April 12 he performed the baptism of their son Cameron Pojero who was born September 5, 2025.

Jeff reported with sadness that he performed three funerals in March. On March 19, the graveside funeral for member Ann Evans who passed away February 15, 2026; on March 23 the funeral of John Palmer, who passed away on March 18, 2026; and on March 28 the funeral of member Richard Longworth, who passed away on January 11, 2026.

A celebration of life for Anne Evans will be held at the church on May 31, 2026.

Jeff also reported with sadness the death on April 11, 2026 of member Richard Murcott. A celebration of life will be held at the church on July 26, 2026.

Session approved Jeff performing at the church the wedding of Karl Schmidlapp to Mallory Mullane on September 26, 2026. Karl is the son of Jeff's friend Larry Schmidlapp of Oyster Bay, whose funeral Jeff performed last year at the church.

Session also approved Jeff performing the wedding of Bruce Lebens to Lori Mahfouz at the church on a date to be determined. Bruce was confirmed in this church.

The Board of Deacons joined us at 7:30 for our joint meeting. Jeff welcomed everyone and stated that this is our annual Joint Meeting mandated by the Book of Order, as Deacons and Elders are part of a unified ministry and mission.

Jeff summarized the work done at the February 28, 2026 meeting to review the goals of the Long Range Plan. Elders and Deacons offered more ideas on these topics. These included focus on, among other things:

- Increasing exposure of the church within the local community
- Explore collaboration with other community and historical organizations.
- Consider general advertising with an allocated budget for regular ads
- Develop and send welcome letters to new residents
- Develop new methods of using social media
- Finding new opportunities for group outings and fellowship
- Improving communications from the church
- Focusing on the needs of young families, and perhaps reviving the Baby and Me program
- Engagement strategies for youth
- Clarifying the role of the Deacons and all the services available to the congregation

Jeff shared for the Session that Richard will be doing a Minute for Ministry for Church Support soon and repeated quarterly, focusing on our budget, offerings and other income. This is to keep the congregation informed and engaged about our finances rather than just reviewing them once a year at the annual 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.

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

---

## DEACONS NOTES

---

### Report from April 2026 Deacons Meeting

The Palm Sunday and the Easter services were beautifully decorated with flowers and were well attended.

15 easter flowers were distributed to those who have suffered a loss over the past year.

The Deacons voted to approve \$1000 from the Silver Star Fund to a family whose apartment was destroyed by fire. They are now homeless and we will help get a down payment on a new apartment. The dishwasher is not cleaning well, which caused a lot of extra time to clean up after the community dinner. We will ask Jeff to look into it.

### Joint Meeting

We discussed the results from the Long Range planning meeting:

We would continue to sponsor group outings such as sports events, concerts, and Christeen sailings. Debra will champion the outings and gatherings.

We will seek to advertise our activities and the church in general in local publications and social media. Google may be able to provide a grant for advertising.

We would like to be especially attractive to families with children. The Sunday School needs to be evaluated, as teachers may be retiring soon and will need to be replaced.

We should seek ways to re-engage our youth. How do we manage involving youth with their varied schedules? Other time frames might work other than Sunday morning. Baby and Me can be resurrected. Activities could include board game nights and Nerf wars.

We have a medical equipment loan program where people can borrow items such as wheelchairs and walkers. We could contact a local newspaper for a news release that this is available to the community.

We can work to partner with other entities in the community such as the food pantry and life enrichment center.

The Deacon's and Session shared interesting items that were discussed during their individual meetings.

Manny the custodian is retiring, we will need a replacement. He works about 15 hours per week.

The Presbytery sent out a questionnaire regarding levels of engagement to find areas that they might be able to help with. Jeff read out each of the questions for us to react to. We are currently pretty well engaged with our current ministries.

A zoom webinar is available for deacons and elder training.

We discussed some of the recent passings and the new families who are attending the church.

Jeff closed in Prayer

---

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

---

It has been a busy spring in the Sunday School, featuring an incredible Palm Sunday Pageant lead by Pastor Jeff, an Easter Egg Hunt, children's message on Easter, additional music with Jessica Chen and more. In our early elementary class, we have been looking at ways in which we can apply bible lessons to our daily lives. As we head toward Children's Day in June, we are ending the year with a study of the Ten Commandments which gives us all an opportunity to reflect on how we live our faith. We look forward to honoring our mothers on Mother's Day with children participating in bell ringing, flowers, and Family Communion Sunday.

---

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

---

As we look ahead to summer (because, after this winter, who isn't...?) - thoughts turn to VBS - or, as we like to call it: **Vacation Bible Fun-time Camp**.

Traditionally, we offer this from about 6:00 to 8:20 PM, in the evenings of the week following St. Rocco's Festival (or, the week of July 13 this year).

But - with summer camp schedules and other pressures, we are looking at different options, and –  
**we need your input** (since we are hoping to do this for you...).

These include:

Do the same thing - no changes\*\*

Do the same thing, but charge a little more, and provide dinner (to remove that strain of parents' schedules).

Do a shortened version over a weekend.

Do a shortened version on Mon - Wed - Fri. Provide dinner.

Do a version of what we've done in a way we haven't thought of (but - you have, and will eagerly share with us).

**\*\*If we do the whole week, we need additional volunteers and leaders.  
Please reply A.S.A.P. Thank you!!**

---

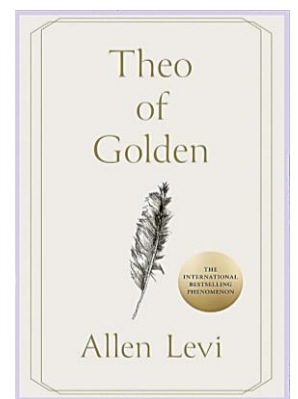
## BOOKIES

---

The Bookies will next meet on **Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026**.

This is a change from our normal Wednesday meeting time - and we hope to welcome some readers who have been unable to join us because of a Wednesday conflict.

We will be reading *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi, a popular novel which has topped the New York Times bestseller lists recently. It tells the story of Theo, a stranger who arrives in the small Southern city of Golden and begins collecting and giving out portraits of people in town, and in return asks for their life stories. According to Amazon and Goodreads, it is "a story of giving and receiving, of seeing and being seen; about the power of generosity, the importance of connection. and the quiet miracles that happen when we choose kindness and wonder."



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, May 12 at 6:30.**

See you then, Joan & Stephen



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**TREASURE &  
THRIFT FAIR**

**Saturday, May 2**

**9am - 2pm**

**CLOTHING + HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**

**TOYS + SPORTING EQUIPMENT**

**COLLECTIBLES + FURNITURE**

**BAKED GOODS + TOOLS**

**60 E. Main St**

**Oyster Bay**

*Hot Dogs and Soda  
served for lunch*

[www.OysterBayPresbyterian.org](http://www.OysterBayPresbyterian.org)

516-922-5477





# MOTHER'S DAY

Mother's Day is May 10th

The Flower Committee would like to announce our annual  
Mother's Day celebration.

Mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and friends will be honored and remembered,  
by including their names in a special insert to the bulletin on Mother's Day.



All requests must be turned in by **SUNDAY, MAY 3RD**



Please fill out and place in collection plate.

**PLEASE PRINT NEATLY**

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

by: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

by: \_\_\_\_\_

In thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

by: \_\_\_\_\_

## **FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

***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**

The pantry is open for donations; Tuesday 11:00 – 1:00 pm

Wednesday 11:00 – 1:00 pm

Thursdays 11:00 - 6:30 pm

Community Shopping: Thursdays 2:00-6:30 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 10:00-3:00,

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**

---

---

*May...*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>3 Fifth Sunday of Easter<br/>Scripture: Habakkuk 1:1-4, Psalm 22<br/>Mark 9<br/>Sermon: "WHY?"<br/>Guest Preacher: Ken Pollitt</p> <p>10 Sixth Sunday of Easter<br/>Mother's Day Communion Worship<br/>Scripture: Psalm 66:8-20<br/>Romans 5:1-11<br/>Sermon: "How Much More?"</p> | <p>17 Seventh Sunday of Easter<br/>Scripture: 1 Samuel 17:38-54<br/>Romans 5:12-21<br/>Sermon: "Our Champion"</p> <p>24 Day of Pentecost<br/>Scripture: Psalm 104:24-31<br/>Romans 6:1-14<br/>Sermon: "Doctrine of the Original Mess"</p> <p>31 First Sunday after Pentecost<br/>Scripture: Malachi 3:4-18<br/>Romans 8:1-25<br/>Sermon: "To Walk in Line with the Spirit"</p> |
|---|--|

