

# The Bell Ringer

Of the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

A Friendly Church; So When You Come — Bring a Friend

We Are Open . . . Come And Praise God!!!

SEPTEMBER 2021

Sunday worship services at 10:00 am



*The Presbytery of Long Island  
cordially invites you to a service to install*

*Reverend Wade Pond*

*as pastor of the  
Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow*

*on*

*Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
at 2:00 P M*

*Light refreshments will follow the  
service in fellowship hall*



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**From the Pastor's Nook . . . . .**

**"Lessons from the Pickleball Court"**

Many of you may already be aware that I am an avid pickleball player. If you are not familiar with pickleball, it is a game developed in the 1960s in Oregon but is currently the fastest growing sport in our country. It is played with either two or four players, using a paddle (similar to the size of a racquetball racquet) and a ball very much akin to a wiffleball. The overall sense of the game is one that is a hybrid of tennis, ping pong and badminton.

**. . . . . Continued on Page 3**

## Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

(631) 367 - 9249

www.sweethollowpresby.org

Rev. Wade Pond, Pastor  
 Rachel Fogel, Choir Director  
 Lori Kevelos, Church Administrator  
 Jill Conroy, Treasurer  
 Monica Van Houten, Clerk of Session

**Elders:**

Ed Conroy  
 Jim Sommermeyer  
 Frank Sansone  
 Bill Von Brook

**Deacons:**

Jean Cavanaugh  
 Niaja Mowatt  
 Maureen Sansone

**Other Groups & Activities:**

Book Discussion .....	Sukey Walter
Christian Education.....	Carol Keil
Fellowship, Outreach & Mission.....	Maureen Sansone
House & Property.....	Bill Von Brook
Nominating .....	Barbara Martin & Niaja Mowatt
Personnel.....	Frank Sansone
Prayer Circle .....	Carol Keil
Prayer Shawl Ministry.....	Sukey Walter
Budget & Stewardship .....	
Women For Women .....	Maureen Sansone & Sukey Walter
Worship .....	Joan Sommermeyer
Youth Group .....	
Church Historian .....	
Bell Ringer Editor .....	Bill Chamberlain



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## BELL RINGER DEADLINE

**for October 2021 Issue:  
 Monday, September 27, 2021**  
*Subject to change*



### September 2021

- 4..... Jill Conroy
- 4..... Carol Mason
- 12..... Michelle Von Brook
- 12..... Peter Kevelos
- 12..... Stavros Kevelos
- 14..... Tracy Dein
- 19..... Kristen Conroy
- 20..... Ayanna Williams
- 21..... Barbara Moder
- 25..... Bob Earthy
- 30..... Sharon Krams



## Happy Anniversary

### September 2021

- 4.....Joanna Hoban & Daniel Layer
- 24 ....Beth & Nick Pereira

## **From the Pastor's Nook . . . . . *Continued from Page 1***

### **"Lessons from the Pickleball Court" - continues**

I try to play at least four times per week (more if possible). The game is highly social and very accessible. If you have a ball, 2 paddles and a court, well then you have a game! Here on Long Island, every hamlet seems to have pickleball courts somewhere. Just down from the church on Old Country Road are three courts at Sweet Hollow Park. There are also courts at Walt Whitman Park, behind the library in Bethpage and indoor courts at Pickle 'N Par on Broadhollow Road and the YMCA in Huntington.

The sport is so popular because the equipment is not expensive and the quality of your game is not solely dependent on speed and strength. With many respects, the game of pickleball is one of patience, discipline and a soft touch. This combination of attributes makes the game accessible to people of different socioeconomic levels, education levels and age. Pickleball is a game of inclusivity.

In my time of playing here on Long Island, I have played against mafia lawyers and retired EMS workers. I have played with club pros and beginning amateurs. I have played with established authors, doctors and salesman.

Many of the people that I have played know that I am a pastor and there are still a number that don't. Because of that, I highly enjoy the social aspect of the game. Some people curse when they miss an easy shot regardless of the fact that I am a pastor. It doesn't bother me if they do (and to tell the truth, I may mutter a four letter word under my breath if I miss a shot). Like me, they are out there enjoying a game that is truly enjoyable with a small side of competition.

You may be saying, "So what does this have to do with have to do with the church or our faith Pastor?" Our life and our church is a lot like pickleball. You have good days and bad days. We work with and play with others (we are a body). We work and play better with others when we invest a little extra time in it (share our time). We can be even better and learn more when we have a variety of people with different backgrounds and skills (diversity). We can teach one another things that may help us grow (individual formation). We can invite people that we may never have invited before (hospitality). We help our partners out when maybe they need a little extra help on the court or in the court of life (mission). There is always a game that can be found and you always have another point that you can play even if you missed three shots in a row (grace and forgiveness). You also congratulate other players when they hit a good or great shot (praise) whether they are on your team or the opposing team.

I think that last one hits me in a soft spot. While I am a fairly good player, I miss shots...lots of them. And when I miss a shot that I feel like I shouldn't have missed, I apologize to my partner. And just about every partner tells me the same thing, "There are no 'sorries' in pickleball." That, my friends, is grace. It should exist in our games, in our church and in our lives.

# Prayer Corner

September 2021

By Carol Keil

Lord, LISTEN to your children praying... HEAR us as we lift our prayers to you today:

We pray with THANKSGIVING for the safety of the Dein/Helf family as they recover from the fire at their home AND lift our prayers of THANKSGIVING for the skill and dedication of the Melville Fire Department firefighters and EMT's.

We join the Conroy/Schmitt in lifting healing prayers for 20-year-old Jack Anthony being treated for leukemia.

We join the Schiffmacher family in continuing healing prayers for Erik Howard.

We pray with HOPE for all educators and students as they return to classrooms this month, for their health and safety.

We pray with THANKSGIVING for signs of healing among us AND for the privilege of being present WITH and FOR each other.

We pray for WISDOM as we move forward in this community of faith.

We pray with JOYFUL THANKSGIVING as we prepare for the Installation of the Rev Wade Pond as our Pastor on Sunday September 26.

We pray for all who seek healing.

We pray for all mourning the loss of loved ones.

We pray for this troubled world:

For those who have supported our freedom on foreign soil.

For the refugees seeking freedom.

For the victims of fires, floods and earthquakes.

For all who continue the battle to control the spread of COVID-19 and its variants.

For our volunteer firefighters and EMT's.

Lord, Hear our prayers,

Amen

## Weekly Prayer Circle via Zoom

All are welcome to join in our weekly Prayer Circle Zoom gathering, Wednesday mornings at 10am. You'll find the Zoom meeting address in the weekly reminder email sent by Lori Kevelos.

# Christian Ed

By Carol Keil

September 2021

“Safe Travels!” We call out as loved ones embark on a journey, wishing them Godspeed along the way and a safe homecoming.

Our children grow and head off to college or their first lengthy road trip... perhaps they're newlyweds heading off on life together... its human nature to worry about the ones we love heading off on unfamiliar pathways.

So it is, with our Sweet Hollow faith community, as we embark on an exciting journey in the life of this church. In this time of Covid-19 concerns our journey requires even more diligent planning and care be taken to ensure our safe travels.

We give thanks for the diligent work of our Session members in setting parameters for when and how we may safely meet. We miss the comfort of the familiar activities we have shared in the past, but as a river blocked by a landslide we now seek new pathways to reach our goals.

Travel with us on the journey as we “do church” in revised but wonderful ways!

Sign up to attend the small group listening sessions to share your hopes and dreams for our future.

Be with us in weekly worship, in person or via Zoom or Youtube.

Join choir.

Join Prayer Circle via Zoom Wednesday mornings at 10am.

Help us plan how, where and when we present Faith Formation activities for our youth.

Wishing us all, Safe Travels!



**Choir Rehearsal**



**6:30 pm Every Thursday Night**

# SMALL LISTENING GROUP GATHERINGS

## (AN INVITATION)

By Pastor Wade Pond

Greetings friends and family of the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow!

In Ecclesiastes chapter 3 we read, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." One of the matters discussed in this piece of wisdom states that there is, "A time to keep silence, and a time to speak." In the church, the pastor does a lot of speaking. However, with this invitation, the pastor will keep better observance of "a time to keep silence."

All friends, members, former members and regular attendees are welcome to come and enjoy a time of fun and dialogue with Pastor Wade, a member of the session and one another. These small group gatherings are an opportunity to let Pastor Wade get to know you a little better, ask him some questions and dream GREAT dreams! These group gatherings are designed as a listening opportunity for Pastor Wade. Children are welcome to attend and light refreshments will be provided.

There will be several meetings scheduled with the first happening on Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> (6:30 PM) hosted by Ed and Jill Conroy at their home (thank you Ed and Jill!). The second gathering is scheduled for Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM at the church in the social hall. Monica Van Houten will be our session member in attendance and host at that gathering (thank you Monica!).

These small group gatherings are designed to be **SMALL** (no more than 10 people per group), so an RSVP is required. Please be sure to send your RSVP to Lori at the church office. This will allow us to provide a safe and comfortable space to gather. We understand that your schedule may inhibit you from participating in these initial group gatherings. No worries!!! Further small listening groups will be made available in October and November if necessary. Also, if you are interested in serving as a host for a gathering please let Lori or Pastor Wade know!

In addition, if you know of someone that might be interested in coming, someone that might want a chance to talk with Pastor Wade, this invitation is open to anyone.

This is a wonderfully exciting time and a chance to strengthen our life together as a body of faith. Grab on with both hands and hold on tight!

# FALL MISSION

## School Supplies



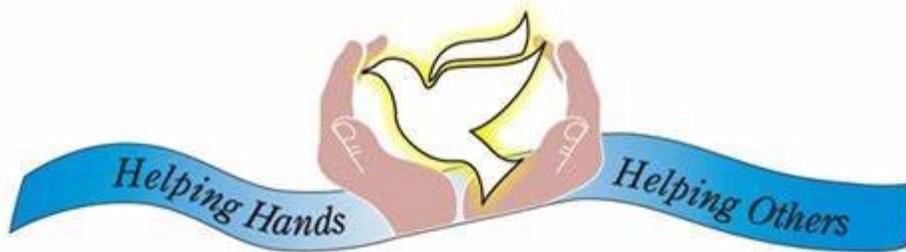
Another season of generous giving clearly was shown as the collection bin within the sanctuary was filling up rapidly. Taking advantage of sales was a key component in the quantity received. Kudos out to those sale shoppers! The local Tri-County CYA will utilize all supplies that have been blessed by our Pastor and Congregation.



Many supplies were delivered the week prior to school starting so those in the summer program could take advantage of being ready for the first day.

The program workers had indicated that there was a special need for sturdy backpacks so a lot of the earmarked donation money went towards backpacks. A child is definitely more relaxed at the start of the school year knowing they have what is needed to accomplish their job at school. Gently used school supplies are always wanted throughout the school year, so think about bringing them to church when you go through the next "let's clean out the closet mode".

Your generosity will change lives.  
Thank you Sweet Hollow Congregation  
The Little Church with a Big Heart's  
Mission Team



## Entrance to Sanctuary Replaced

Many thanks to Omar of Centro Misionero for his skill in carpentry as he replaced our threshold at the entrance to the Sanctuary.



**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF SWEET HOLLOW**

*95 Old Country Road  
Melville, NY 11747*

**Phone: 631-367-9249**



*We're on the Web!*

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

## Centro Missionero Strikes Again!!!

On August 1st, Centro Missionero's congregation converged on the Sweet Hollow property for an early day clean-up of Our grounds. 20- 30 members took the time to prune, rake, weed, and edge the many Gardens and areas of Our fabulous grounds. A big round of applause and many thanks to all that joined in. We are planning to have an Inter-Congregational reception (Covid protocol pending) on October 5th outdoors (weather permitting) to show our appreciation for all of Centro's efforts. More information will be coming shortly.

