

The Bell Ringer

Of the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

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

SPTEMBER 2017

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Pastoral Column:

Pastor Meg Flannagan

Reformation (Part I)

As Christians, our Presbyterian faith began with Jesus' disciples. It grew through the early church, the organization of the Roman Catholic Church, and then through the Reformation. When Martin Luther grew weary with the 'fatal flaws' of the Catholic Church, he nailed some ideas to the church's front doors in 1517. He hoped for reform, not a new church. Nevertheless, the winds of the Holy Spirit stirred the people and blew this movement around the world. Today, the Protestant branch of the Christian faith includes Lutherans, Anglicans, Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, and more.

This October is the 500th Anniversary of Luther's protest. The Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow looks forward to celebrating the Reformation through worship and Christian Education opportunities. October 1 will be our annual observance of World Communion Sunday, when we join millions of other Christians around the Table, singing songs and praying prayers in a variety of languages. Beginning October 8, we will step back into our history each Sunday through October 29. We will use different prayers and orders of worship, corresponding to particular points in our own congregation's history. Please join us for these time-travelling services of praise and prayer, word and song. As you enter the doors, however, do not come to watch the spectacle, but bind your heart to the saints who have gone before.

Martin Luther wrote about those worshippers in the Reformation: "Those who come out of curiosity and the desire to gape at something new will soon be sick and tired of the whole thing... As for the rest, no law nor order, exhortation nor driving, that one can devise, is of any good to induce them to go willingly and of their own accord to Divine Service, so unwilling and reluctant are they to do so (though God takes no pleasure in forced service), so idle and good-for-nothing."

So let us gather – willingly – to worship God with the saints, apostles, and martyrs, and all those of every time and place. Be the church. Sundays at 10 am.

Prayer Corner

by Carol Keil

This month we pray for the teachers and the students of our church family as they return to the classroom:

May those who teach find inspiration and fulfillment in the sharing of their knowledge.

May those who study do so with eagerness and attentiveness so they may become all that God has planned for them.

We lift up healing prayers for Bob Templeton and Dan Schiffmacher.

We pray for the family of Galda Gallagher as they celebrate her life and mourn her loss.

We pray for Frank Sansone as he continues to heal and returns to work.

We pray for our church leaders as they plan for the year ahead, to fulfill the mission of this church.

Galda Bergetta Gallagher March 28, 1923 - July 19, 2017

by Bill Walter

Galda entered the Church Triumphant on July 19 at the age of 94 and was buried in Calverton National Cemetery next to her husband Charles who died almost exactly four years earlier. Galda and Charles joined the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow in February 1989.

They have two sons, Gary and Brian, and have been living in a lovely house on Prospect Street in Huntington Village. Gary, an architect, carefully restored this historic house. Gary arranged the house so he could carry out his design work on display and upscale houses on the first floor and his parents could live on the second floor. Charles had been an airline pilot and member of the Early Flyers Club while Galda handled the financial work for Gary. Unfortunately, as time progressed, the narrow steep staircase confined them to the upper floor with its marvelous views.

Gary designed and donated the Labyrinth Garden at Sweet Hollow in memory of his parents.

Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

Rev. Mary Margaret Flannagan, Pastor

Rachel Fogel, Choir Director

Barbara Zimmerman, Secretary

Tracy Dein, Treasurer

Elders:

Melissa Beyer
Barbara Blanthorn
Lynn Burke
Charlotte DeSanti
Tim Mason
Maureen Sansone
Brian Schiffmacher
Jim Sommermeyer
Emily Wagner

Deacons:

Jim Beyer
Jean Cavanaugh
Bill Chamberlain
Laura Fallon
Daniel Layer
Susan Manning
Barbara Martin
Frank Sansone
Dan Schiffmacher
Jason Wagner
Marc Young

Other Groups & Activities:

Book Discussion	Sukey Walter
Christian Education	Lynn Burke
Church Brunch	Bill Walter
Fellowship & Outreach	Maureen Sansone
House & Property	Brian Schiffmacher
Mission	Charlotte DeSanti
Personnel	Charlotte DeSanti
Prayer Circle	Carol Keil
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Sukey Walter
Stewardship	Jim Sommermeyer
Women For Women	Maureen Sansone
Worship	Melissa Beyer
Youth Group	Pastor Meg Flannagan
Bell Ringer Editor	Bill Chamberlain

Children's Choir

by Pastor Meg Flannagan

All preschool and elementary-aged children are invited to join a short-term choir. We will meet with Pastor Meg in the Parlor at 9:30 am on Sundays, September 10, 17, and 24. We will sing in worship on Sunday, October 1 (World Communion Sunday). If this is successful, we will repeat the children's choir in December.

Christian Education News

by Lynn Burke

September 10 is Homecoming Sunday when we will barbeque and mingle on the front lawn. Hope to see you there for a great start to the new season.

The Christian Ed Committee has been meeting and working on new ideas. Starting this Fall, we are starting an At-Home Sunday School series for preschool and elementary-aged children. There will be short lessons posted on our church website for the families to do each week. A lesson will be taught on the third Sunday of each month at church when the children will leave worship for their Sunday School class. Please visit www.sweethollowpresby.org and click "Education & Fellowship" to access the lesson each week. We look forward to seeing parents and children in worship. We have set up the small room at the back of the sanctuary as a child-friendly space stocked with simple crafts and activities.

The Nursery will be open every week. Sukey Walter has volunteered to care for our youngest members.

Dinner and discussion will start up again in October, dates to be announced.

As always, we are still in need of volunteers to teach Sunday School, and room shepherd in the Nursery and Sunday School. Look for the sign-up sheets in the back of the sanctuary.

Please let us know how you think this new program is working. We want your feedback and opinions, thank you.

Personnel Committee

by Charlotte DeSanti

Personnel is very pleased to announce that Sukey Walter has volunteered to be the full-time caregiver for our little ones each Sunday in the Nursery. We are so very thankful and our little ones will be in good hands with Sukey, the doting Grandma that she is.

There are a few Sundays that Sukey will be unavailable. They are November 26, February 18 and February 25. There will be a calendar in the Nursery where folks can sign up to substitute on days where Sukey cannot supervise. You may also contact me at lopus71@aol.com. Thank you.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

by Sukey Walter

Prayer Shawl will meet October 19 in the parlor at 1:00 pm. If you knit or crochet or would like help in learning how to do so, please join us as we knit shawls for comfort or celebration

If you would like a shawl, please contact either Sukey at [<sukey1@me.com>](mailto:sukey1@me.com) or Pastor Meg.

Visioning Task Force

by Charlotte DeSanti

The Visioning Task Force will be submitting its revised report to the Commission on Ministry on September 12. We have made revisions and prayerfully this will be approved by COM. The completed version is never a final version. It is a base study to be used for the future.

Copies of the report will be made available for the congregation. Pastor Meg will be leading two workshops where specific topics of the report will be discussed. This will take place immediately after coffee hour. The first workshop is September 17 on "Volunteers and Church Officers." The second workshop is October 22 on "Church Committees." We hope to see you all at this meeting.

The VTF alone is not Sweet Hollow. It is all the voices of our Church Family and we look forward to hearing from you. Thank you everyone.

Stewardship – Budget News

by Jim Sommermeyer

Thanks to God for the abundance he has given us!

Thank you! We asked and you responded! This has been the first summer in recent memory that our donations have kept pace with our expenses. As we enter the home stretch of the year, our positive momentum is growing stronger! Amazing things are happening at Sweet Hollow! Our Roof Repair Fund-raising campaign has reached \$26,049, more than two-thirds of the way to our target of \$35,000. If we reach the \$30,000 level before the end of 2017, another \$1,000 match will kick in.

We need ideas for themes for the upcoming Stewardship season. If you have an idea, please submit it. Jean Cavanagh will grace us with her Faith Testimony on Sunday, September 10. If you feel so moved, please sign up to do the same. We wouldn't be the "Little Church with the Big Heart" without you and your time, talents, and treasures supporting all the good work we do.

Please keep an eye out for upcoming committee meetings. All are welcome to join and if you can't be there, please feel free to share your ideas.

Do you have your own business? If you are interested in listing it in a Sweet Hollow friends and family directory, please send me your information. There will be more information to come on this initiative.

Joyful things are happening at Sweet Hollow! In July we enjoyed moving spiritual discussions and warm fellowship during the Dinner and Discussion sessions at the Sweet Hollow Diner. We were blessed with visitors; two young Mormon missionaries explained their theology to us. Coming up in September we have Homecoming Sunday!

We have much to do and I know we can do it together if we trust in our faith and pray to God to show us the way.

Women 4 Women

by Sukey Walter

Women 4 Women will start off its Fall meetings with a potluck supper on Monday, October 2 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. W4W is open to all women over the age of 18. Join us as we plan our upcoming activities. Bring a dish to share as we enjoy catching up with old friends and new. Contact Sukey Walter at Sukey1@me.com for more information.

Mission Team

by Charlotte DeSanti

Welcome back everyone from the lazy days of summer!

The Sharing Bags for the children at Tri CYA are up in the Sanctuary. We are collecting healthy snacks and school supplies. Please take a bag and return it to church by September 10 (Welcome Back Sunday) when they will be blessed. Please remember, the bags are also a guide in helping out with items. You may add to or bring in supplies or other snacks that you may have already purchased or feel are needed as well. Tri CYA has so many different areas for the children. They have a full kitchen, play area, game area, computers, a quiet study/library area. There are all sorts of needs for the children.



I put pasta and sauce as a healthy snack. With a kitchen, foods are prepared and we know how hungry kids get after school. Also, if shopping is too much and you would like to donate money - it will go towards milk bread etc. Checks can be made out to Tri CYA.

Pumpkins will soon be on the way. Delivery is Saturday, September 30 at 8 am. Many hands are needed to help unload. Especially from our strong, young adults and parents. Sign-ups have begun and WEEKENDS are the GREATEST need with TWO people per shift. Saturday shifts are 10 am- 1 pm, 1 - 3:30 pm and 3:30 - 6 pm. Sunday shifts are 11 am - 2 pm, 2-4 pm and 4-6 pm. Help is also needed for baked goods on the weekends, opening and closing the PP and help cleaning up at the end of the season. Folks, PLEASE look at your calendars for a shift that you can fill. We need everyone; all of our Elders and Deacons, our young adults and our church family. Bring a friend along. It's a nice way to spend an afternoon with the pumpkins ☺🎃 once you find a shift (preferably two) that works for you. Thank you for your support! Frank Sansone is coordinating and you can reach him at sansfra87@gmail.com or 631-385-1855 or sign up after church.



Finally, we will let you know how we can be of help to those in need from the devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. We will keep you posted. In the meantime, let us keep the citizens of Texas in our prayers.



Pumpkin Patch 2017

by Frank Sansone



Saturday, September 30 at 8:00 am is our time to unload our portion of pumpkins for our patch. If it goes as planned, the Pumpkin Patch will be stocked and open for business by 10:00 am. The Patch will be open each day until Tuesday, October 31.

The Pumpkin Patch is our opportunity to raise funds for our church. It continues because of our congregation's history of supporting the Patch by unloading, manning a day shift in the Patch and donating baked items. We need even more support this year to make this successful. Please give your time to the Patch in October; sign-up sheets are out in the CEB hall during Fellowship Time. The **weekday** times for the Patch are: 12 pm to 3:00 pm and 3:00 pm to 5:45 pm. Weekends are: **Saturdays**-10 am -1 pm, 1 pm - 3:30 pm and 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm; **Sundays**-11 am - 2:00 pm, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm and 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm.

Weekly updates for staffing needs will be sent out to those on PCSH/Secretary emails starting the second week of September and weekly until the end of October.

Michelle Von Brook has volunteered to Co-Coordinate the Patch with Frank Sansone. The email contacts are michellevb@gmail.com and sansfra87@gmail.com.

Welcome Home BBQ/Picnic

by Maureen Sansone

Our annual Welcome Home Picnic will be held on Homecoming Sunday, September 10, immediately following worship.

The church will provide beverages and hamburgers and hotdogs; attendees are asked to bring a side dish or a dessert to share.

Volunteers are needed to assist with setup before church (moving tables, chairs, and grills), cooking and cleanup. Please contact Maureen Sansone at 631-385-1855 or msansone@optonline.net if you're able to help.

Gift Baskets Needed For Harvest Square Dance & Fall Harvest Dinner

by Maureen Sansone

The Square Dance and Fellowship and Outreach Committees are seeking donations of items for Gift Baskets, or donations of Themed Gift Baskets, which will be auctioned off at the Harvest Square Dance to be held on October 14, and at the Fall Harvest Dinner, to be held in early November.

Do you have a favorite restaurant, store, hobby or activity? We welcome any and all donations as we look forward to offering a beautiful array of Gift Baskets during Coffee Hour on Sunday, October 8, on the night of the Square Dance, and on the night of the Fall Harvest Dinner.

Some suggestions are: Family Fun Night, Dinner Night, Children's Games, Chocolates, Christmas Basket, Craft Beers, etc.

Please contact Mickey Rogers at mickeyrogers74@gmail.com or 917-536-5787, or Maureen Sansone at msansone@optonline.net or 631-385-1855 if you are interested in donating, or if you would like to assist in the collection and assembly of the Gift Baskets. Thank you in advance.

Mario's Pizzeria/Restaurant Fundraiser

by Maureen Sansone

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the Mario's Pizzeria/Restaurant Fundraiser, which was held each Tuesday during the month of June.

Special thanks to Mario's for generously supporting our church, and to Michelle Von Brook, who made this fundraiser possible.

Fall Church Brunch Program Begins Tuesday, October 10

by Bill Walter

Church Brunches this fall will start on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am — October 10, November 14 and December 12. Mark these dates on your calendars now.

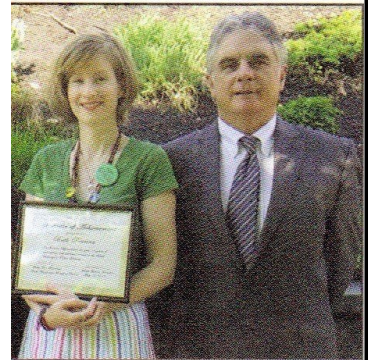
We will begin our 16th Brunch Season with a program which takes a look at the Sayings of Jesus from the *Gospel of Thomas*. We are not familiar with the *Gospel of Thomas* because in 367 AD it wasn't chosen to be included as one of the 27 works to form the New Testament. The *Gospel of Thomas* is one of many early Christian writings now known as the apocrypha, a word taken from a Greek word meaning "hidden" or "secret." We will be listening on a DVD to David Brakke, Chairman of History of Christianity and a professor of History at Ohio State University. During the first two or three hundred years following the death and resurrection of Jesus, there were many different Christian writings used at the many Christian churches around the Mediterranean before an agreement was forged to have an official canon of 27 works forming the New Testament. The *Gospel of Thomas* is the most famous of the apocryphal gospels and was thought to have been lost until a copy was found in Egypt in 1945. Come join us as we listen to a very interesting story.

The second Tuesday, October 10, will be the kickoff Church Brunch for the Fall 2017 - Spring 2018 season. We'll have freshly-brewed decaf coffee to accompany some delicious goodies. Join us at 10:00 am or whenever your schedule permits. We'll be in the church parlor until 12:30 pm.

News From The Pews

by Bill Walter

Beth Pereira recently celebrated the anniversary of her 15 years of service with the South Huntington Public Library. Library Director Joe Latini presented Beth with a certificate thanking her for her service. Beth was pictured in the South Huntington Summer Newsletter along with three other staff members who also celebrated anniversaries. The Sweet Hollow Bell Ringer also adds its congratulations to Beth. Many Sweet Hollow members enjoy meeting Beth at the children section of the library. If you haven't had this opportunity, do drop in with or without your children and allow Beth to show you around.



Bill Walter wrote a grant proposal for the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association to Modernize their Exhibit Space. Governor Andrew Cuomo recently announced that Parks & Trails would fund the \$25,000 grant proposal. Twenty years have passed since the Exhibit Space was created. Several important themes need to be added, light bleaching of current exhibits corrected and new technology incorporated for the celebration of Walt's 200th birthday in 2019.

Book Discussion

by Sukey Walter

We will meet on Thursday, September 28 in the parlor at 1:30 pm. Our book selection is *The Black Hand: The Epic War Between a Brilliant Detective and the Deadliest Secret Society in American History* by Stephen Talley.

Help Needed For Harvest Square Dance

by Maureen Sansone

The Harvest Square Dance, which will benefit our roof-raising project, will be held on Saturday, October 14, from 7 pm to 9:30 pm.

In order to make this "Fun"draiser as fruitful as possible, help is needed in *many* areas, in the weeks leading up to, and including the night of, the event:

marketing/advertising, babysitting, outside concessions, admission table, church information table, admission ticket presales and event sales, 50/50 Raffle ticket presales and event sales, Raffle Basket ticket presales (on Sunday, October 8, during Coffee Hour) and event sales, providing themed Raffle Baskets or items for themed Raffle Baskets, providing baked goods such as cookies, cupcakes, brownies, Rice Krispy Treats, lemon bars and assorted cakes, setting up before the event, cleaning up after the event, etc.

Please contact Mickey Rogers at mickeyrogers74@gmail.com or Maureen Sansone at msansone@optonline.net if you are interested in helping.

Welcome One, Welcome All

To Sweet Hollow Presbyterian Church's

Harvest Square Dance!

Grab your boots, "grab yer pardner" and come on out for a fun night of dancing, food and fellowship!

No square dancing experience necessary. All types of music will be played.

When: Saturday, October 14, 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

Where: The Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

95 Old Country Road

Melville, NY 11747

www.sweethollowpresby.org 631-367-9249

Tickets will be sold in advance and at the door:

\$10/adult; children under age 10 are free

\$25 per family of 3; \$35 per family of 4

Snacks, beverages, 50/50 Raffle and Gift Basket Raffle Tickets will be sold at the event!

Raffle Tickets will also be sold in advance during Coffee Hours.

Childcare available for babies and toddlers

Square Dance Caller: Mickey Rogers

September 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 10:00 Worship	4 Joanna Hoban & Daniel Layer's Anniversary	5 7:30 Choir Rehearsal Jill Conroy's Birthday Carol Mason's Birthday	6 10:00 Prayer Circle	7	8	9
10 10:00 Worship 9:30 Children's Choir 11:15 Homecoming BarBQue Youth Group Hike Pastor Meg Flannagan's Birthday	11 Johathan Bacchus' & Caroline Martin's Birthday	12 7:30 Choir Rehearsal Rob Schmitt's Birthday	13 10:00 Prayer Circle	14	15 Collin Roe's Birthday	16
17 10:00 Worship 9:30 Children's Choir 11:15 Congregational Workshop	18 7:30 Session	19 7:30 Choir Rehearsal Kristen Conroy's Birthday	20 10:00 Prayer Circle Dylan Landkammer & Ayanna Williams' Birthday	21 Barbara Moler's Birthday	22	23
24 10:00 Worship 9:30 Children's Choir Beth & Nick Pereira's Anniversary Sukey & Bill Walter's Anniversary	25 Bob Earthy's Birthday	26 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	27 10:00 Prayer Circle Maurice Perkins' Birthday	28 1:30 Book Discussion	29	30 8:00 AM Pumpkins Artive Sharon Krams' Birthday

**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

**BELL RINGER DEADLINE
For October Issue
September 20, 2017**

More Reformation Coming in October!

by Pastor Meg Flannagan

Take advantage of our celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. In addition to worship services, the Christian Education Committee will provide opportunities for everyone to engage the ideas of the Reformation. Sunday School, youth group, and the Dinner at the Diner (Wednesdays at 6:30 pm) will incorporate the historical event and ideas into activities at Sweet Hollow. Join us as we reflect on the ways that God continues to re-form our congregation.

Save the Date!

by Pastor Meg Flannagan

Rev. Jan Edmiston, co-moderator of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), will preach at the Presbytery Meeting on Saturday, October 28. All are welcome to attend the meeting at Glenwood Life Center (formerly the Glenwood Landing Presbyterian Church). Hosting the Moderator is a rare and honorable occasion. Please join us in welcoming her to Long Island.