

The Bell Ringer

Of the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

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

OCTOBER 2021

Sunday worship services at 10:00 am

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

A Grateful Heart - Installation

On Sunday September 26th, I had the honor of officially being installed as the pastor of The Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow. It is both a joyful and humbling experience.

It is joyful in the manner that the experience is celebratory. There is joy in the broad variety of participants that help make the service happen. There is music that is glorious and beautiful (granted my wife's solo makes me a very biased observer). There are heart warming stories (as my dear friend Sarah Gengler shared in her sermon). There is also laughter with some of the stories that are shared (as MY pastor, my colleague and my friend Randy Riggs so eloquently spoke). There are so many things about this experience that makes the event joyful. For that, I owe you all thanks.

However, the experience is also humbling. To be CALLED as a pastor is a great honor and a great charge. To be called as a pastor is to recognize the relational way that the Triune God, the Pastor Nominating Committee, and myself worked together to reach this space. It is humbling to think that a short time ago, I questioned whether I would seek out a call (and subsequently be called) to serve a church again. Such opportunities are rare and when the Holy Spirit seeks you out for such a calling, you just can't say "NO!" To think that God would look at my little speck of the infinite expanse of God's creation and say, "Wade, I need you here," is humbling. For that experience, I owe you all thanks.

Finally, with the history that is behind us, the hope in that is in front of us, and the present that IS US, I owe you all thanks.

Your pastor,
Wade



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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

Office Closed Monday, October 11, 2021

🎵 **Choir Rehearsal** 🎵

6:30 pm Every Thursday Night

BELL RINGER DEADLINE

**for November 2021 Issue:
 Sunday, October 24, 2021**

Subject to change



October 2021

1 Alexandra D'Angelo
 4 Kristen Sommermeyer
 7 Diana Fogel
 10 Sukey Walter
 11 Mike Engel
 14 Juliann Wade
 15 Nick Pereira
 16 Zariah Howard
 20 Melissa D'Angelo
 24 Brittney Moder
 25 Daniel Layer
 28 Matilda Bauser



Happy Anniversary

October 2021

9Niaja & Leroy Mowatt
 10Carol & Otto Keil
 10Hilary & Justin Zucker
 18Michelle & Bill Von Brook

From the Pastor's Nook

Faith in Action

Over the last several weeks, we have had scripture passages that focused on children or the “least of these.” Stories of faith in action can be some of the most compelling examples of Christ in the world. Allow me to share this one with you.

One Sunday, after worship, a working class family decided to go out for lunch. This was not a regular occurrence as the family was living from paycheck to paycheck. Thus, such an outing was surely a treat, especially for the children of the family. Of course, for just such an outing, the parents had picked a family favorite.

The family sat and pondered over their menus, picking their drinks and entrees. The waitress kindly accepted their orders and sauntered back to the kitchen with order slip in hand. While this restaurant offered many scrumptious choices for their lunches, the talk had begun to revolve around the best choices on the menu – the ice cream.

While the family waited for their food to arrive, a single gentleman entered the doors of the restaurant and was greeted by the hostess and seated just across the aisle from the family. The gentleman's appearance was near unmistakable. His disheveled appearance as well as the utilitarian clothing that was stained and dirty would definitely lead one to formulate that this person was likely homeless. The impression was made more real as he dug into his coat pocket and brought out a small amount of change from his pocket. Placing it on the table, the man carefully counted the coinage in order to make sure that he had enough for his order.

The waitress attended to the man and knew him by name - “George.” She greeted him with a delightful smile and jovially inquired, “What can I get you today George?”

Looking at his change dutifully, he responded to the waitress, “Is this enough to get a coffee and some fries?”

“Sure. Not a problem,” the lady replied. Then the waitress returned to the kitchen counter with George's order.

The husband and wife of the family looked at each other and the kids; then a quick discussion ensued. It was one of those moments that parents experience; the under-the-breath rapid fire conference held while the children were close but occupied. You could see that the parents had come to a consensus with a mutual shaking of their heads.

As the waitress arrived with the salads and soups that were ordered, the husband spoke to the waitress saying, “Whatever that gentleman wishes to order, just put it on our bill.” It was a gesture born out of a heart willing to give that day.

Remarkably, the waitress declined politely stating, “That's okay. He comes in from time to time and me and the other girls chip in and get him whatever he wants.”

The husband and father was astonished to see such an act of generosity. It was a humbling moment to see Christ at work caring for the “least of these,” and it was a topic of discussion for the whole family on the way home from the restaurant.

Prayer Corner

October 2021

By Carol Keil

"Blessed be the God and Father of our lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-5

We join the Schiffmacher family in prayers of healing, strength and comfort for Erik Howard and his fiancée Anna Schiffmacher as Erik continues his battle with cancer. Our love and prayers are with Anna and Erik as they are joined in marriage on October 9, 2021.

We join the Schmitt family in continuing prayers of healing, strength and comfort for Jack Anthony and his family as Jack continues to battle leukemia.

We lift prayers of joyful thanksgiving for the formal installation of Reverend Wade Pond as Pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow on Sunday September 26, 2021!

We pray with great thanksgiving for the continuing efforts by the members of Centro Missionero in the maintenance of our buildings and grounds.

All are invited to join our weekly Prayer Circle gathering via Zoom at 10am Wednesday mornings. Please contact Lori Kevelos to be added to the weekly emailed Zoom link.

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.



Choir Rehearsal



6:30 pm Every Thursday Night

“The Moment we have all been waiting for has arrived!”

by PNC Secretary Jane Beller



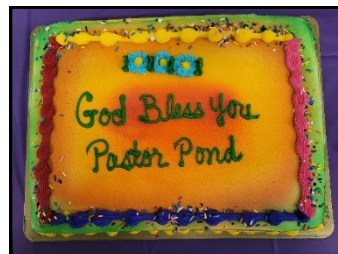
September 26 marked the installation for our Pastor Wade Pond. It was a glorious sunny day for our new solid start to a happy “marriage” between Sweet Hollow Congregation and Pastor Pond. The service was filled with songs, well wishes, Bible passages and words from fellow clergy members on Pastor Pond’s call to become spiritual leader for Sweet Hollow. Reverends Sarah Gengler and Dr. Randy Riggs praised their friendships both personal and professional they have with Pastor Pond and his family and wished his time with our congregation

long and fruitful. Special singing selection by Jessica Pond (“Reckless Love”) was a super special treat. Many of us are sure we shall be hearing more of her beautiful voice. Carol Keil represented the PNC and Session in presenting Pastor Pond a new stole for services. Maureen Sansone orchestrated the celebration in the Great Hall with many delicious treats.



If you missed the service, tap into Facebook’s Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow page and check it out. I would suggest hitting the “follow” button as the site is updated very regularly with positive words of faith. The PNC is overjoyed with the outpouring of support in selecting Pastor Pond to lead his new flock for many years to come.

God Bless Sweet Hollow!



*** FALL CLOTHING DRIVE ***

To Benefit United Veterans Beacon House



Fall has arrived and many of us will be switching clothes for the colder weather. This is a wonderful opportunity to help local veterans with your gently used and clean clothing, shoes, accessories and linens.

Our Clothing Collection Drive begins on October 3 and runs through November 7. During worship on the 7th items will be blessed and then passed on to military families in need via the United Veterans Beacon House.

Previous years clothing collections were very successful and we look forward to sharing more during these struggling times for many. Donation collection area will be in the sanctuary vestibule when you enter the church to your right each Sunday. If you need to bring donations to church during office hours: Monday – Friday between 8am and noon, please call Lori in advance at 631-367-9249.



Thank you Sweet Hollow Congregation

The Little Church With a Big Heart's

Mission Team



**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

Christian Ed / Faith Formation

October 2021

“DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME”, Christ’s words carved in the wood of a table or woven into the border of a table covering. Christ’s words echoing down through the ages, Christ’s invitation to our weary, grieving and divided world to celebrate, acknowledging our unity as Christians in the sharing of Communion. Each year the first Sunday in October is set aside as World Communion Sunday, a time for Christians to recognize our interconnectedness with each other as we work for **PEACE**, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Something’s new in Christian Ed this Fall!

First the name: ***Faith Formation***. Faith formation more accurately describes the process by which our faith in God develops over time as we are invited to participate in worship, learn Bible stories, sing the songs and take part in Mission activities. In the process we’re encouraged to ask questions, to be present, in every sense of the word. Children are invited and encouraged to remain in the Sanctuary throughout Sunday worship. You’ll also notice some changes in the ***Children’s Message***. Pastor Wade will alternate with several members of the congregation in leading the *Children’s Message* each week as we present Lectionary based lessons from Illustrated Ministry’s ***Mini Revolutions*** curriculum.

