

The Bell Ringer

Of the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

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

DECEMBER 2021

Sunday worship services at 10:00 am

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



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Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

(631) 367 - 9249

www.sweethollowpresby.org

Rev. Wade Pond, Pastor

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

BELL RINGER

DEADLINE

**for January 2022 Issue:
 Sunday, December 26, 2021**

Subject to change



December 2021

- 7 Rebecca Van Houten
- 13 Fred Chacalos Jr.
- 17 Brian Schiffmacher
- 20 Nicole Schiffmacher
- 22 Brianna Conroy
- 26 Laura Fallon.
- 26 Barbara Martin



Happy

Anniversary

- 6 Monica & Paul Van Houten
- 26 Jennifer & Mike Engel.

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.

Prayer Corner

December 2021

By Carol Keil

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by power of the Holy Spirit” Romans 15:13 NIV

“Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words
And never stops at all.”

Emily Dickinson

“Long lay the world in sin and error pining,

‘Til He appear’d and the soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,

For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.”

Placide Cappeau translated into English by Rev
John Sullivan Dwight

Lord, we pray this Advent season might bring us HOPE...

Hope that those who mourn might be consoled by the warmth of memories shared.

Hope for those who seek healing, that they might feel the strength and comfort of our prayers.

Hope for this weary world... as fears of yet another Covid variant grow, help us to live with caution and concern for our neighbors.

As we watch and wait for the light of Emmanuel: God with us... help us to be active participants in the story of God’s life in the world today.

Amen

Faith Formation

December 2021

We’re happy to offer the families of our congregation the *Illustrated Ministry* Advent resource, *Illustrated Advent for Families: God with Us* and *Illustrated Ministry Christmas Coloring Pages* to enrich your family’s Advent and Christmas celebration this year.

Scripture lessons, prayers, craft projects and coloring pages will be sent to your email box each week.

Please contact Carol Keil at c1keil@aol.com or call Carol at 631-219-4558 to be sure your family will receive each weekly emailing.

Merry Christmas!

Mission Commitment Sunday – December 5, 2021

So what in the world is Mission Commitment Sunday? Mission Commitment Sunday (MCS for short), is an expansion of our stewardship commitment. Mission Commitment is all about ensuring that we lean into our mission to be the Little Church with a BIG HEART. MCS is about sharing the load of our mission through our spiritual practices.

Our spiritual practices include (but are not limited to) things like prayer, scripture reading, giving of our financial resources, fasting and dedication to service. These are the practices that keep the church vibrant, sharing the good news of the gospel in our community.

MCS allows us to provide a space for the about 200 members of the Huntington Seniors group to gather each week. MCS allows us to provide a safe space for Alcoholics Anonymous to meet regularly as these individuals continue to heal and lift up one another in their struggles. MCS helps us to ensure that we have a place to collect an abundance of clothing for veterans or to provide food for the hungry.

Mission Commitment Sunday is about all of those things and MORE! MCS is the day that we COMMIT, PROMISE, PLEDGE and ENGAGE in the practice of **HOPE**. The act of giving regularly and intentionally through our spiritual practices helps us grow in faith and become more mature spiritually. It serves as a continual reminder of God's claim on our lives. It requires us to put our own needs and wants into proper perspective, to set aside our own interests for the sake of God and others. Generosity is a tool God uses to shape our hearts. It is the active engagement of HOPE.

What is in your HOPE box for the church? What is in your HOPE box for your lives? What is in your HOPE box for others? That is what your spiritual commitment is all about! We have lots of HOPE in our hearts and dreams in our head for the church.

On December 5th, we will gather together, with HOPE in our hearts, as we share in our Mission Commitment Sunday. Look for more information coming soon!

Thank you,

Your Finance Team

Donation Envelopes For 2022



It is time to organize who would like offering envelopes to be left in church for pickup late December. If you are in possession of a box and want to remain getting a box, do nothing. If on the other hand you WANT TO STOP using the boxes and just donate online or use the numerous envelopes available in each pew, please let me know by leaving a message with Lori at church or my home (631-271-3099) or shooting me an email saying No box needed this year to

looneychick36@yahoo.com.



Hope you had a grand Thanksgiving and are staying healthy. Jane Beller

Letter From Rachel

Dear Sweet Hollow friends,

I am writing to express how overwhelmed I was by the reception after my last service and also by the incredibly generous gift basket you gave to me. The thought, time and love that you granted me on my last day leaves me completely humbled.

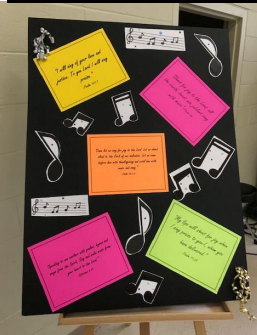
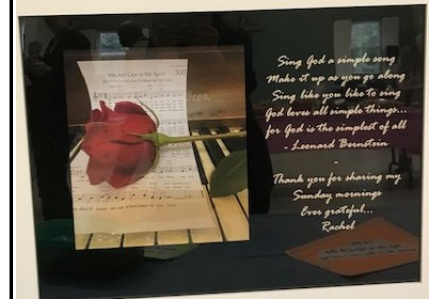
Bringing video messages from Rebacca and Meg was above and beyond as was every detail of the coffee hour. I can imagine how much time all of that took and I thank you so much.

I appreciate the collection and the thoughtful items in that gift basket. I know that it came from present and past members which made me feel amazing. Again, thank you for being so thoughtful.

I also have to thank Pastor Wade one more time for his support and kindness and for his part in such a beautiful and affirming send off. I can't remember the last time (if there was one) when I felt the way you all made me feel on that day.

I miss you when I pass the church and hope to see you all soon.

Love,
Rachel





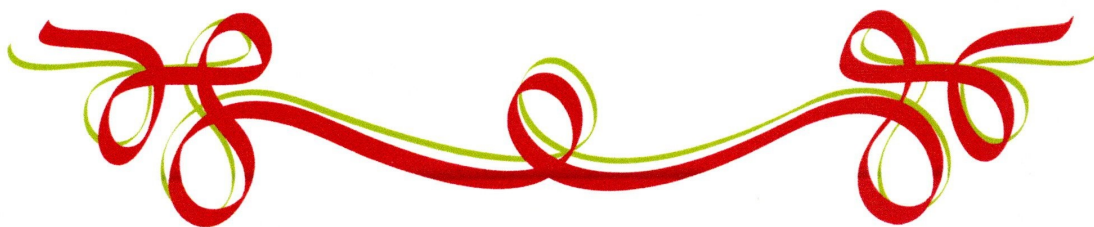
Mittens & More Tree

We're blessed to announce that the *Mittens & More Tree* has been placed in the front of the sanctuary, awaiting donations of children's gloves, mittens, hats and scarves to benefit the Tri-CYA (Community Youth Agency).

Please bring your donations in on any Sunday and place them on the *Mittens & More Tree* up through December 19th, at which time the items will be blessed and subsequently delivered to Tri-CYA for distribution to the children whom they serve.

You may also drop off your donations to the Church Office during office hours, Monday through Friday between 8:00 AM and 12:00 PM. Please call Lori in advance at 631-367-9249.

Thank you all for bringing warmth to those in need.





**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF SWEET HOLLOW**

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We're on the Web!

www.sweethollowpresby.org



Alert to All Online Amazon shoppers!

Please select our charity (Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow) each time you go shopping.

In a time where every dime will count, this will make it easier for online shoppers who use AmazonSmile to help the church while getting what you need...think of it like a two-for-one offer. This is the message I got when I selected our church: **Yes, I understand that I must always start at smile.amazon.com to support Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow.** So go to smile + select our church under the tab charitable organization and shop to your heart's content. Happy Shopping.

Amazon donates to your charity 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases.