

The Bell Ringer

Of the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

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

JANUARY 2022

Sunday worship services at 10:00 am

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



From the Pastor's Nook

Friend, it only gets better in God!

Revelation 21:3-4 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

As the world enters into 2022, we have concluded yet another year. However, God has not been working his plan according to the Gregorian calendar -- but rather according to an other-worldly calendar. For example, when Jesus was crucified, and became the Lamb of God slain for the world, it was on the Biblical feast of Passover. When He rose again from the dead, His resurrection was precisely on the feast of first fruits. Fifty days later, the Holy Spirit was poured out during Pentecost. This marked the beginning of the harvest season and we've been in the midst of the great harvest for the past 2000 years. The fall feasts have yet to be fulfilled prophetically, however, we as believers are groaning for the world's redemption!

While the world focuses on life now -- on youth, beauty, health and ability -- these things fade away and according to the world, in the autumn of life -- life goes downhill. However, we as believers realize that it's completely the opposite in God. The best is yet to come for those of us who are believers!

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Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

(631) 367 - 9249

www.sweethollowpresby.org

Rev. Wade Pond, Pastor

Jason Black, Director of Music Ministries

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 February 2022 Issue:
Sunday, January 23, 2022**

Subject to change



January 2022

- 3..... Rachel Fogel
- 8..... Bill Von Brook.
- 10..... Jennifer Engel
- 16..... Kivrin Engel
- 17..... Timothy Schiffmacher
- 23..... Wyatt Wagner.
- 30..... Pastor Wade Pond
- 31..... Bill Chamberlain



Happy Anniversary

January 2022

No anniversaries this month

 **Choir Rehearsal** 

Time Change

7:00 pm Every Thursday Night

Office Closed

Monday, January 17, 2022

Prayer Corner - January 2022

By Carol Keil

May these words by the late South African, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, serve both to honor his memory and to inspire our faith in action:

“Do your little bit of good where you are; its those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

“It is through weakness and vulnerability that most of us learn empathy and compassion and discover our soul.”

Lord, Hear our prayers as the Covid pandemic surges forward into this new year:

For all who struggle with anxiety in these Covid-troubled times.

For all who continue their work to keep us safe.

For families grieving the loss of loved ones.

For our Clergy as they comfort and lead us in these uncertain times.

Fill us with compassion and HOPE.

Lord, hear us as we join with friends and family seeking your healing grace:

For Jamie Wallace, awaiting organ transplant; for Jamie’s family and his mother Judy Wallace.

For Erik and Anna Schiffmacher Howard and the Schiffmacher family as Erik continues his recovery from his second stem cell transplant.

For Nicole and Brian Schiffmacher and their family as Nicole continues treatment for bladder cancer.

For the Wagner family in prayers for Jay’s father Ed Wagner.

In continuing healing prayers:

For Tracy Dein

For John Speed

In prayers of THANKSGIVING for the faithfulness of our Sweet Hollow congregation and officers:

For those who decorated so beautifully in celebration of the Advent and Christmas season.

For those who faithfully prepare each week as we worship, both in person and on social media.

For those who gave and those who distributed our gifts to local mission this Christmas season.

For the blessings of MUSIC! As we welcome Jason Black as our Music Minister.

In gratitude to Lori Kevelos, celebrating two years as our Church Administrator.

For the Prayer Circle, who faithfully gather via Zoom, each Wednesday morning.

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.

From the Pastor's Nook - *Continued From Page 1*

In the Chronicles of Narnia, author C.S. Lewis so poetically concluded his novel by writing these truths.

"And as He spoke He no longer looked to them like a lion; but the things that began to happen after that were so great and beautiful that I cannot write them. And for us this is the end of all the stories, and we can most truly say that they all lived happily ever after. But for them it was only the beginning of the real story. All their life in this world and all their adventures in Narnia had only been the cover and the title page: now at last they were beginning Chapter One of the Great Story which no one on earth has read: which goes on forever: in which every chapter is better than the one before."

God is saving the best for last! While things of the world get worse, become old and fade away. The things of God only get better! Rejoice and look toward the day when there is no more death, no more sorrow, and no more pain because in Him all these things will pass away. Make 2022 your best year yet in the Lord! Throw away all the worldly pursuits and pursue God like you've never done before -- because the greatest celebration awaits us!

Friend, with another year under our belts as we close out 2021 -- let's go into 2022 remembering that the best is yet to come -- soon enough we'll enter a time where "every chapter is better than the one before!"

December Baptisms



Niaja Mowatt

Baptised December 19, 2021



Zoriah Mowatt

Baptised December 19, 2021

Faith Formation

The Work of Christmas

“When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart.” Howard Thurman

We are pleased to announce that until Covid-19 safety protocols allow us to hold in-person Sunday School lessons once again Sweet Hollow families with children ages pre-K thru Middle School will continue to receive weekly at-home lessons and resources provided by *Illustrated Ministry* delivered via email.

Please contact Carol Keil at c1keil@aol.com or by phone at 631-219-4558 to add your email address to the weekly mailing.

January lesson resources include:

Epiphany: Wise men follow the star: Matthew 2:1-12

The Baptism of Jesus: Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Jesus, at the wedding in Cana: John 2:1-11

Jesus, filled with the power of the Holy Spirit: Luke 4:14-21

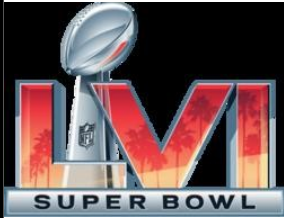
God Calls Jeremiah to be a prophet: Jeremiah 1:4-10

Blessing Of the Toys.

December 19, 2022



“Souper” Bowl Challenge



Your Mission Team wants you to be part of the game plan and accept the challenge to gear up for a “Souper” Day on February 13. It will be here before we know it. Let’s scoop and score big time by dedicating the months of January and February to gather goods.

Souper Bowl Sunday is officially February 13 but we shall continue to gather till the end of February. Items such as canned goods, non-perishable foods, individual packaged healthy snacks and soup fixings can be left in the sanctuary’s holding bin after church. Another opportunity to give is to earmark checks or cash (Souper Bowl) or give grocery store gift cards into the offering basket or in the church office with Lori or Pastor Pond. Call 631-271-3099, if you need Jane to come pick up your bounty...let the flavors of goodness flow.



Background: The Souper Bowl of Caring began over 25 years ago with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.”

Coming soon – Dining out with Benefits for Sweet Hollow



Efforts are underway to bring back the food Fundraising ideas of Bill Walter in past years. This was a great idea to give back to the church and be free for a day or two from cooking chores.



Target dates are late January/February
Flyers and announcements arriving soon.



**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF SWEET HOLLOW**

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Melville, NY 11747*

Phone: 631-367-9249



We're on the Web!

www.sweethollowpresby.org

'The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 30, 2022. The annual report will be emailed to the congregation in advance of the meeting. Please read it and participate in our meeting either in person or via zoom to celebrate the past year's work.'