

The Bell Ringer

Of the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

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

FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday worship services at 10:00 am

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

From the Pastor's Nook

Blessed to be a Blessing

It is remarkable how easy it is to bless others, to speak good things to and about them, to call forth their beauty and truth, when you yourself are in touch with your own blessedness. The blessed one always blesses. And people want to be blessed! This is so apparent wherever you go. No one is brought to life through curses, gossip, accusations, or blaming. There is so much taking place around us all the time. And it calls forth only darkness, destruction, and death. As the "blessed ones," we can walk through this world and offer blessings. It doesn't require much effort. It flows naturally from our hearts. When we hear within ourselves the voice calling us by name and blessing us, the darkness no longer distracts us. The voice that calls us the Beloved will give us words to bless others and reveal to them that they are no less blessed than we.

- Henri J.M. Nouwen

"Blessed to be a blessing" has been a passion in my heart for as long as I can remember. It was a topic paper that I wrote in one of my spiritual development courses in seminary. I am and have been thoroughly invested in helping people recognize the blessing they have been given, and in turn, freely give such blessings to others.

Henri Nouwen is a renowned leader in Christian piety and practice, whose books have been read by countless people seeking a close relationship with the divine creator, our God. His focus in the quote above has to do with one's personal understanding and it is written for personal reflection. But, if the people of any congregation were to receive and practice the blessing experience Nouwen writes of, imagine how blessed would be the church and how natural it would become to share our blessings with others!

Pastor Wade

Inside This Issue:

From the Pastor's Nook	1,4	Choir Rehearsal	2	March Mission Team Focus	5
Next Issue Deadline	2	Office Hours	2	Dining Out With Benefits For Sweet Hollow	5
Officers & Staff	2	Prayer Corner	3	Faith Formation	6
Birthdays & Anniversaries	2	Weekly Prayer Circle	3	Annual Congregational Meeting	6
		"Souper" Bowl of Caring	4		
		February Mission Team Focus	4		

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

 **Choir Rehearsal** 

7:00 pm Every Thursday Night

BELL RINGER

DEADLINE

for March 2022 Issue:

Tuesday, February 23, 2022

Subject to change



February 2022

- 2..... Jean Cavanagh
- 3..... Jason Wagner.
- 7..... Adelyn Layer
- 8..... Marc Young
- 15..... Nikesha Phipps
- 18..... Lynn Burke
- 18..... Bea Reiser
- 21..... Audra Schmitt
- 22..... Scott Manning
- 23..... Kira Sansone
- 27..... Jazylinn Pond



Happy Anniversary

February 2022

No anniversaries this month

Office Closed

Monday,

February 21, 2022

Prayer Corner - February 2022

By Carol Keil

Our thanks to **Brandon Heath** for these moving lyrics from his song, ***Give Me Your Eyes***

Give me Your eyes for just one second

Give me Your eyes so I can see

Everything that I keep missing

Give me Your love for humanity.

Give me Your arms for the broken-hearted

The ones that are far beyond my reach

Give me Your heart for the ones forgotten

Give me Your eyes so I can see.

Lord, hear our prayers:

We join in prayers of consolation for the Burke family as they mourn and remember Lynn's mother, Jessie Pleasants.

We join in prayers in prayer of consolation with Music Minister Jason Black and his family as they mourn and remember Jason's grandfather, Ken Black.

We join Rose and Malachy O'Connor in prayers of joy upon the birth of grandson Finn, son of Chris and Melanie O'Connor.

We join the Chacalos family in prayers for strength and comfort for Fred's daughter, Jean Chiavarelli.

We join the Wallace family in prayers for strength and hope as Jamie Wallace awaits organ transplant.

We join the Schiffmacher family in our ongoing prayers for healing and strength for Nicole Schiffmacher and Erik Howard.

We join the Schmitt family in prayers of joy for Jack Anthony's signs of healing.

We pray for all who continue to recover from the effects of Covid-19; as we pray with thanksgiving for the skills of medical professionals and first responders.

We pray with thanksgiving for those called to serve as Deacons and Elders in the year ahead.

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.

Excitement Is Building As We Take The “Souper Bowl Of Caring” Challenge Into The Field

“Souper” Bowl Sunday is officially February 13, and we are accepting canned goods, non-perishable foods, checks/cash (earmarked for “Souper” Bowl), and grocery store gift cards throughout the months of January and February till Game Day.

Items will be donated to the Huntington Community Food Council.

Be part of the team and give something to boost someone’s game day. Pickup of goods is available, just call Jane at 631-271-3099.



February Mission Team Focus



After our “Souper Bowl of Caring” initiative, we shall be focusing on “Building A Healthy Community One Individual at a Time”. We’ll be collecting Personal Care items and Non-Perishable food items to benefit individuals associated with Helping Hand Rescue Mission, through Project H.O.P.E.

Personal Care items most requested are:

Bar soap, body wash, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand sanitizer, deodorant, paper towels, tissues, diapers and baby wipes.

Donations can be left in the Sanctuary Bin. If you’d like to come by during office hours (8 am to 12 pm), please call the Church Office at 631-367-9249, to ensure that someone will be there. Checks earmarked for Mission Work can be made out to PCSH, and we’ll purchase supplies. Thank you as always.

The Little Church with a Big Heart’s 2022 Mission Team:

Co-Chair Maureen Sansone, Co-Chair Jane Beller,
Carol Keil, Sukey Walter, Melissa D’Angelo, Lynn Burke,
Frank Sansone and Pastor Wade.

Are you interested in assisting with the work of the Mission Team? Contact any team member.

March Mission Team Focus

During the month of March, we'll be requesting donations of healthy snacks to benefit the children of Tri-CYA (Tri Community Youth Agency).

Requested items are: Individual packaged snacks, drackers, pudding cups, pretzels, applesauce cups, Cup-A-Soup and juice boxes.

Donations can be left in the Sanctuary Bin. If you'd like to come by during office hours (8 am to 12 pm), please call the Church Office at 631-367-9249, to ensure that someone will be there. Checks earmarked for Mission Work can be made out to PCSH, and we'll purchase supplies.

As always, we thank you for your generosity of spirit..

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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.

A target date of February 22 is on an application at the corporate office that is awaiting approval

As soon as we get approval, info will follow



**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF SWEET HOLLOW**

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We're on the Web!

www.sweethollowpresby.org

Faith Formation

Called to Serve

As we welcome newly elected church officers to join in the leadership of The Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow congregation, we reflect the recent lectionary selection from Jeremiah 1:4-10 and comments from ***Presbyterian Outlook*** Family faith formation contributor Rebecca Davis. "When we are called by God to serve, we are also called to trust that God has already given us everything we need to do that which God calls us to." You'll find Rebecca Davis' the full lesson at <https://pres-outlook.org/2022/01/4th-sunday-after-epiphany-family-faith-formation-for-january-30-2022/>

A joyful reminder of how God Calls and Uses each of us is found in the song ***All God's Creatures Got a Place in the Choir***. Use your favorite computer search engine to find and enjoy the many YouTube renditions of this classic Sunday School, VBS and church camp song.

Congregation Meeting Re-scheduled To February 6

Due to the blizzard, the annual meeting scheduled for January 30 has been postponed to February 6, immediately after the morning prayer service.