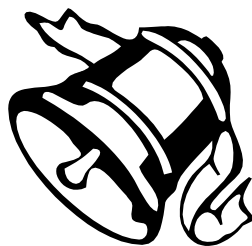


# The Bell Ringer



## Of the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

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

### JULY - AUGUST



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#### Pastoral Column

Pastor Meg Flannagan

The metro NYC area receives many global refugees each year. Individuals and families, adults and children arrive from all over the world with few personal belongings. They are often taken directly from the airport to an empty apartment. But on what will they sleep? With what will they cook? What should a child take to school? The International Rescue Committee (“IRC,” responsible for the resettlement of refugees) has limited means to support each family situation.

Through the guidance of the IRC, the Presbyterian Churches of Baldwin, Garden City, and Sweet Hollow have previously partnered to meet the needs of several families. Our congregations collected cash, gift cards, and new or gently used goods (furniture, clothing, linens, etc.). Although our efforts were appreciated, the need was much bigger than our resources could stretch. A grant was thus submitted to the Presbytery of Long Island for financial assistance with this outreach. Last month, \$5,000 was awarded to Sweet Hollow! The grant money will be evenly dispersed amongst refugee individuals and families, supplementing our donations. The money may be used to purchase additional supplies or be given directly to families in gift cards. Other congregations will share in the supply drives. We hope to connect refugees with existing church ministries: clothing and furniture thrift stores, driving ministries, and healthcare initiatives. Old First (Huntington) and Setauket Presbyterian Churches have already committed to help with this significant outreach.

This is an exciting opportunity for Sweet Hollow to serve both locally and globally at the same time. It invites us to practice multiple biblical commandments; we will be caring for the widowed and orphaned, loving our neighbors, becoming peacemakers, bearing fruits of the Spirit, and more.

Please pray for refugees arriving in our neighborhood, and that we may be kind and gracious friends to all those in need.

See you in church!

## Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow

(631) 367 - 9249

www.sweethollowpresby.org

Rev. Mary Margaret Flannagan, Pastor

Rachel Fogel, Choir Director

Barbara Zimmerman, Secretary

Tracy Dein, Treasurer

### Elders:

Lynn Burke

Ed Conroy

Tim Mason

Jim Sommermeyer

Bill Von Brook

### Deacons:

Jean Cavanaugh

Barbara Martin

Niaja Mowatt

Maureen Sansone

Dan Schiffmacher

Jason Wagner

Marc Young

### Other Groups & Activities:

Book Discussion

Sukey Walter

Christian Education

Carol Keil

Fellowship & Outreach & Mission

Maureen Sansone

House & Property

Bill Von Brook

Personnel

Frank Sansone

Prayer Circle

Carol Keil

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Sukey Walter

Budget & Stewardship

Jim Sommermeyer

Women For Women

Maureen Sansone & Sukey Walter

Worship

Joan Sommermeyer

Youth Group

Pastor Meg Flannagan

Church Historian

Bill Walter

Bell Ringer Editor

Bill Chamberlain

## Pastor Meg To Be On Maternity Leave

Rev. Joan Finck will serve as maternity leave supply for Pastor Meg this fall, with an anticipated start date of September 1.

## Prayer Corner

by Carol Keil

This summer we wish you TIME:

Time to reach out to those who are lonely.

Time to express your concern for those who are ill or bereaved.

Time to relax long enough to hear the sounds of nature around you.

Time to give thanks for the many blessings you have received.

Time to reflect on your place in this world as a member or friend of The Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow and to join us with renewed faith that with God nothing is impossible!

We lift prayers of joy for the Tomasello family as they welcome the birth of Robert James on June 18!

We lift up prayers for the Flannagan-Fischer family for continued good health and the safe delivery of Baby Fischer due this August.

We pray for continued healing and peace of mind for:

The Wallace family as John continues to recover from the TAVR valve replacement procedure.

The Schiffmacher family as Carol continues treatment for uterine cancer.

Bob and Fran Templeton.

The Keil family as Carol recovers from complications related to her hip replacement surgery.

We lift up prayers of thanksgiving for the progress that has taken place this past year and continue to pray for the focus and willing commitment of our church officers and members as Sweet Hollow Church seeks to know God's plan for us in the months ahead.

Amen.

## **Stewardship - Budget**

To all that have pledged and donated this year, thank you for your continued generosity! We wouldn't be the "Little Church with the Big Heart" without you and your time, talents and treasures supporting all the good work that we do!

### **Stewardship - Our Path to Sustainability**

We'll begin our 2020 campaign in August. Please let me know if you would be interested in giving your Faith Testimony to the congregation this fall. It's a great way to let others know the story of you and help them gain perspective in their own Faith Journey. Did you know that Stewardship includes caring for the environment? Let's do all we can to improve it on a daily basis. Everyone can compost table scraps, mulch lawn clippings instead of bagging, refrain from using mylar balloons, and properly dispose of unwanted medication.

### **Estate / Legacy Planning**

Have you named the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow as a beneficiary in your will? A properly executed will enables you to sustain your support of Sweet Hollow. Your bequest may be a specific amount, a percentage of your estate or a residual amount (after expenses and other bequests have been fulfilled). If you need assistance, Rich Burke has graciously offered his help with planning. We are extremely grateful for those who have done so already!

### **Current Financial Status - End of May**

We have income of \$89,250.79 and expenses of \$90,447.44 for a YTD total of (negative) \$1,196.65. Thank you for your continued generosity! The summer is generally a slow time for donations so please keep your pledges up to date.

### **Per Capita**

We have received \$1,485.97 towards our responsibility of \$4,527.95. Per Capita continues to be an area that creates a large shortfall for Sweet Hollow on a yearly basis, even though it is approved as a budget expense and approved as a budget item. We derive a myriad of free services as a result of our association with the larger Presbyterian organizations. Please let me know if you have questions about Per Capita. We are all responsible for our fair share.

### **Facility Improvements**

Work is nearly finished replacing heating and A/C in the Little House (Parlor, Office, Nursery, Youth Group Room). This will eliminate the risk of our over 50-year-old boiler system failing us next winter. It will also give us improved efficiency, which is good for our checkbook and good for our environment. We have also had the floor in the Fellowship Hall professionally cleaned and it looks fantastic.

### **Facility News**

Please keep in mind when planning your family events that a benefit of Sweet Hollow membership is the ability to utilize PCSH space at a deep discount.

### **Discipleship/Membership**

We are in need of a dedicated individual to serve as chair of our Outreach Committee. We have many opportunities to engage the hundreds of people using our facilities on a weekly basis. We are grateful to our new members and their families as they commit to joining with us on their Faith Journey! We are called to discipleship, to be bold and spread the good news about Jesus; engage your family and friends in discussion about the joy of membership at Sweet Hollow!

For the Stewardship – Budget Committee,  
Jim Sommermeyer (Chair)

## Session Notes

### Congregational Forum

A congregational forum is planned for August 4 to discuss participation in Project Regeneration.

### Pumpkin Patch Cancelled

This fall's Pumpkin Patch was cancelled due to lack in leadership volunteers.

### Resignation of Church Secretary

The Personnel Committee reported the resignation of church secretary Barbara Zimmerman. Session received her resignation with gratitude for over 10 years of service, and appointed Maureen Sansone interim church secretary. Maureen is a longtime member of Sweet Hollow. She will serve from July 3 - December 31, providing knowledge and continuity during Pastor Meg's maternity leave. The Personnel Committee will reevaluate the position over the fall, invite congregational input, and publicly post the opening.

### CEB Hall Floor

Earlier this spring the Session approved the cleaning and sealing of our CEB Hall floor. Bill Von Brook coordinated this work completed last month. Because it had been years since they were last done, it required significant time and expense. Going forward, we plan to clean and reseal the floors twice a year for a nominal fee. (see pictures at right and below.)

## Cleaning & Sealing the CEB Floor





**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF  
SWEET HOLLOW**

**OOMPA CONCERT FUNDRAISER 2019**

**Under the Summer Sun**  
**Bring chairs, sunblock, and picnic baskets!**

**Hosted by  
Lynn Burke  
& Richard Burke**

**Special Guest Host and Emcee  
Kenn Withtwoenns**

**Donation at door  
\$5.00**

**August 3, 2019  
2PM-7PM  
Sign up at IPM**

**Raffle Baskets  
50/50  
Refreshments**

**95 Old Country Road  
Melville, NY 11746**

### **OPEN MIC FUNDRAISER**

Our second Open Mic is scheduled for Saturday, August 3, from 2 pm-7 pm out on the lawn.

Bring a blanket or beach chairs to relax and listen to great music.

Any musicians/singers are welcome to perform, just sign up when you arrive.

There will be a \$5.00 admission that will go to Sweet Hollow.

We will also have Gift Baskets and a 50/50 raffle. Looking forward to seeing you.

## Sweet Hollow Co-Hosted Project H.O.P.E.'s Sunday Supper on Sunday, June 9

by Maureen Sansone

Sweet Hollow co-hosted St. Hugh of Lincoln's Project H.O.P.E.'s (Helping Other People Eat) Sunday Supper on Sunday, June 9, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Thank you to all our Sweet Hollow volunteers who graciously assisted with all phases of this delicious dinner, whether it was assisting with set up, donating scrumptious desserts, organizing and plating the desserts, serving soup, serving the salad, bread, meal and dessert, and cleaning up. Thank you also to those who made a monetary donation to defray the cost of the dinner.

Through your kindness, compassion and willingness to help others in need, you all truly made a difference in the lives of those who attended the Sunday Supper.

Sweet Hollow is truly blessed and privileged to have an opportunity each year to participate in this wonderful ministry. We look forward to yet again co-hosting a Sunday Supper in 2020.

### Pictures From the Family Picnic on June 23



## Women for Women (W4W)

On June 3, the Ladies High Tea, was graciously hosted by Marcy Gordon at her home. In addition to assorted teas, there was delicious food and great conversation.

We look forward to planning our 2019-2020 season at our first meeting in October, the *Potluck and Planning Meeting*.



## Book Discussion

by Sukey Walter

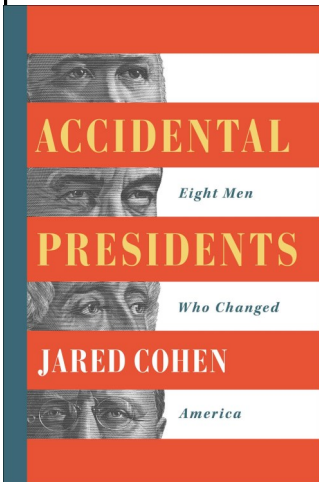
We have decided to have our next meeting on Thursday, September 19.

The book to read over the summer is The Accidental Presidents: Eight Men Who Changed America by Jared Cohen.

*Following is an excerpt from "About the Book" on the Simon & Schuster (the publisher's) website:*

“The strength and prestige of the American presidency has waxed and waned since George Washington. *Accidental Presidents* looks at eight men who came to the office without being elected to it. It demonstrates how the character of the man in that powerful seat affects the nation and world.

“Eight men have succeeded to the presidency when the incumbent died in office. In one way or another they vastly changed our history. Only Theodore Roosevelt would have been elected in his own right. Only TR, Truman, Coolidge, and LBJ were re-elected.”



# July

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Anthony D'Angelo IV's Birthday	<b>3</b> 10 am Prayer Circle	<b>4</b> Happy Fourth! Church Office Closed Fred Chalcalos' Birthday	<b>5</b> Emily Wagner's Birthday	<b>6</b> Andy Fogel's Birthday
<b>7</b> 10 am Worship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Rose O'Connor's Birthday	<b>10</b> 10 am Prayer Circle	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 10 am Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Lloyd Phipps' Birthday	<b>17</b> 10 am Prayer Circle	<b>18</b> Maureen Sansone's Birthday	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 10 am Worship Amanda Moder's Birthday	<b>22</b> Ross Martin's Birthday	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10 am Prayer Circle Charlotte DeSanti's Birthday	<b>25</b> Dan Schifflmacher's Birthday	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Lexie Zucker's Birthday
<b>28</b> 10 am Worship	<b>29</b> Silas Miller's Birthday	<b>30</b> 12 pm Project Regeneration at Old First	<b>31</b> 10 am Prayer Circle			



# August

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>4</b> 10 am Worship Caitlin Mason's Birthday	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10 am Prayer Circle Emily & Jason Wagner's Anniversary Carol Schiffmacher's Birthday	<b>8</b> Sharon & Donald Krams' Anniversary	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 10 am Worship	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10 am Prayer Circle Tim & Carol Mason's Anniversary	<b>15</b> Ray Moder's Birthday	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 10 am Worship Willow Engel's Birthday	<b>19</b> 7:30 pm Session Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10 am Prayer Circle	<b>22</b> Tim Mason's and Mildred Schmitt's Birthdays	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 10 am Worship Robbie Reiser's and Mickey Rogers' Birthdays	<b>26</b> Denise & Ray Moder's Anniversary	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 10 am Prayer Circle	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
						<b>3</b> 2 pm Open Mic Night Teddy Tanksley's 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 September Issue  
August 24**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL IS MAKING PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY SANDWICHES FOR FAMILY SERVICE LEAGUE** on Sunday, July 14 with sandwiches, bottled water, fruit, and a salty snack.

Donations of the following are needed: Arnold Brick Oven White Bread (or other white bread that doesn't fall apart), bottled water, snack packs of Goldfish Crackers, and apples, oranges, and bananas. Please see Frank Sansone if you're able to donate to this worthy cause.

**HOMECOMING SUNDAY AND PICNIC ON SEPTEMBER 8!**

Save the Date!

**OPEN MIC FUNDRAISER**

Our second Open Mic is scheduled for Saturday, August 3, from 2 pm-7 pm out on the lawn.

For details, see page 5.

**Would you like your Bell Ringer to go in color electronically thus saving us time and postage? Please contact the church office.**