

# Good News



## First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca

315 N. Cayuga Street • Ithaca, NY, 14850 • 607-272-2800 • Rev. Kirianne Weaver, Senior Pastor • Rev. Cynthia A. Weaver, Pastoral Supply

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First Presbyterian Church Phone: 607-272-2800 • Fax: 607-272-2813

Email: [office@firstpresithaca.org](mailto:office@firstpresithaca.org) • Website: [www.firstpresithaca.org](http://www.firstpresithaca.org)

Rev. Kirianne Weaver: [kirianne@firstpresithaca.org](mailto:kirianne@firstpresithaca.org) • Rev. Cynthia A. Weaver: [cynthia@firstpresithaca.org](mailto:cynthia@firstpresithaca.org)

Kate Hubbs, Business Manager • Linda Sharpe, Office Administrator

Building Superintendent, Joe Bocchiaro

### Worship Schedule: September 2022

**Sunday, September 4, 10am: Communion**

Scripture:

Message:

Rev. Kirianne Weaver

**Sunday, September 18, 10am:**

Scripture:

Message:

**Sunday, September 25, 10am:**

Scripture:

Message:

**Sunday, September 11, 10am:**

Scripture:

Message:

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe the summer is nearly over. I hope it has been a time of rest, relaxation, and recuperation for all of you. With Labor Day comes the annual return to school and a return to a work mindset. We find ourselves getting ready to jump back into the rhythms of full-time activity and think about starting anew with committees, rehearsals, and meetings of all sorts. While it is a time of new beginnings, it is only one of many throughout the year. Christmas, New Year's, the arrival of spring, Easter, and the end of the school year all bring with them a look to the future and a hope of being renewed. They each signal a change, if only in our thinking, and we look forward to a sense of beginning anew.

With the approach of Labor Day, we are getting ready to step into the faster rhythm of fall. Inside these pages you will find that familiar activities are gearing up. Adult Education classes are starting; the youth group will be meeting; small group book discussions are welcoming new Participants; the Chancel Choir and the youth choir are warming up; committees are preparing their agendas; Theology on Tap continues; and we've even begun thinking about creating another All-Church Advent Devotional this year. Do take a look at these opportunities and decide which ones are calling your name, and if you have ideas for new ways to be involved in the life of the church, please let us know. And so, here we are at the brink of another

#### What's Inside:

- Committee Updates
- Congratulations on Retirement Kate Hubbs!
- "Go Joel!" What Joe has been up to!
- Support for Ukraine
- Thank you! Thank you! Thank You!!!
- Some Fun Stuff

annual milestone, one of those times when we look forward to new beginnings after having been refreshed by a summer of sunshine which I hope contained many periods of sabbath for you. The end of summer and the beginning of increased activity, however, does not mean the end of sabbath. Each Sunday morning we offer you an hour or two or even three (surely you knew I was headed in this direction) to renew your spirits and your energy and to place your burdens at the feet of the one who is never too busy to help us carry them.

This fall we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in person and to a new year of joyfully celebrating in the God whose love knows no end.

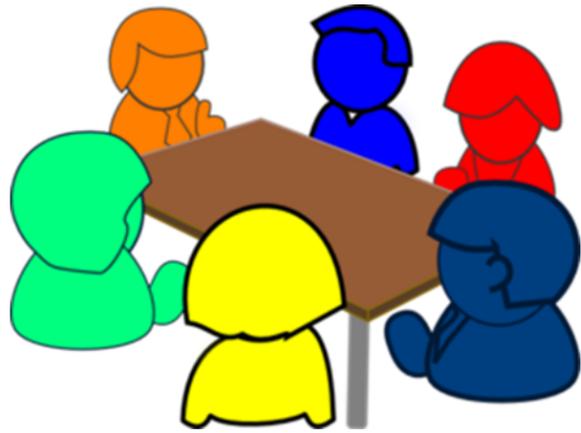
As Kirianne would say,

Be well, *pray often*,  
and do it all with love.

## Committee Updates

### Personnel Committee

With four searches going on at the same time the Personnel Committee has had a very busy summer. With our fingers crossed that we will soon have good news to share, at the time of this printing we are in the process of searching for a Director of Christian Education, a Chancel Choir Director, a Business Manager and a Nurse Attendant. We will keep you posted!



### Buildings and Property Committee

In addition to keeping up with the care and maintenance of our beautiful more-than-a-century-old church building, B & P has given the manse a much needed cleaning out and is in the process of giving the interior a fresh coat of paint.

### Membership Connections Committee

Membership Connections coordinated our eight scheduled Wednesday night picnics this summer. They were well-attended, and offered us a chance to relax and enjoy each others' company. Keep your eyes on the church calendar for the next event brought to us by Membership Connections.

## Adult Education

We look forward to seeing new and familiar faces at Adult Education classes this fall. Classes are held in Dodds Hall on the lower level of our church and begin shortly after morning worship, approximately 11:20, and last for an hour. In September classes will include Bible study, a presentation by the executive director of Ithaca Welcomes Refugees (IWR), information on Ithaca's Reimagining Public Safety project, and a 2-part discussion on the intersection of music, worship, power and diversity in the church. Please watch your bulletin for specific dates and speakers. All are welcomed and we look forward to seeing you.

**September 4th:** Casey Verderosa, Executive Director of IWR, Ithaca Welcomes Refugees, will give us an update on the latest developments. IWR, co-founded by Pastor Kirianne Weaver, is a volunteer led community initiative that fosters a welcoming and fair environment for refugees and at-risk immigrants who come to our region. Come and find out how it has survived, and even flourished, during the most difficult period ever encountered by Ithaca's service organizations.

**September 11th:** To be announced

**September 18th:** City Council Member Robert Cantelmo will tell us about Ithaca's new plan for Reimagining Public Safety. Mr Cantelmo, who represents Fall Creek, has played an active role in the city's study of wide ranging issues such as police reform, racial justice, and the role of police and civilians in finding safe ways to respond to dangerous situations. The new plan is attracting national attention, and as church members who care about these matters, we are fortunate to be able to receive authoritative information about it.

**September 25th:** To be announced

## Announcements and Reminders

### Belated August Birthdays

- 1 – Jenny Yoon
- 1—Joseph Pratt
- 6 – Roberta Kohut
- 7 – Liam Riehl
- 17 – Linda Allen
- 18 – Gavin Dowell
- 19 – Sondra Wayman
- 24 – Bill Kelly
- 25 – Elizabeth Mann
- 26 – Lorraine E. Maxwell
- 26 – Paul Riley



### Birthdays in September

- 9 – Joseph Yoon
- 15 – Pam Hayes
- 16 – Elmer Ewing
- 18 – Rich Favaro
- 20 – Carolyn Sampson
- 20 – Suzanne Scholten
- 20 – Charles Woodworth
- 20 – Pan Maw
- 23 – Renee Anderson
- 24 – Ayako Timmons
- 26 – Jacob Yoon

### Cares & Concerns

**In the Hospital?  
LET US KNOW!**

Call the church (272-2800) or Kirianne at 607-882-1325, or email the office: [office@firstpresithaca.org](mailto:office@firstpresithaca.org).

### A Note to Livestream Viewers.

If you are watching our livestream broadcasts at home and would like to be able to participate more fully by joining in the singing of the hymns, please contact the church office to find out how to get a hymnal. Bulletins are available in advance of each Sunday so you can follow along with all the responses. We hope you can join us in-person soon!

We would like to wish a very special belated birthday wish to **Herb Hartwig** who turned 95 years old on June 28th!!!

*Happy Anniversary*

*Bobbie and Bob Kohut*

*August 29th!*



*...We would love to add your **birthday** and/or your **anniversary**. If it's not here, please let the office know and we will be happy to add it!*

### We hold in our daily prayer:

Ann Cedarholm; Bobbie Collyer; Tom Hurst; Betsy Mann; Gayle Park; Greg McFall; David Morey; Jean and Mark Radice; and Connie and Don Scott.



*The practice of prayer requires discipline. When we think we can pray regularly without having a place and time, we grow sloppy and fail to accomplish it. Prayer without rhythm is like words without paper: both are often soon forgotten.*

## Other Fun Stuff

### Ode to the Sanctuary Ceiling

There once was a rosette above  
that envied the life of a dove.

It said, "I should try  
to take wing and fly."

Then, splat, it fell from above.



## BIBLE QUIZ

1. How many books are there in the New Revised Standard Version (the version we have in our pews) of the Bible?
2. How many books are in the Old Testament? In the New Testament?
3. Where did the people want to throw Jesus off a cliff after he preached to them?
4. What book (excluding Psalms) has the most chapters?
5. In what Gospel does Jesus say, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age?"
6. What was Jacob's twin brother's name?
7. Who was Miriam?
8. Where in the Bible does it say, "God helps those who help themselves?"
9. Where in the Bible does it say, in essence, "Red sky at night, sailors' delight; red sky in the morning...?"

9. Matthew 16:2-3

Answers: 1. 66; 2. 39, 27; 3. Nazareth; 4. Isaiah with 66; 5. Matthew 28:20b; 6. Esau; 7. Moses's sister; 8. Nowhere;

## Deacons Corner

The Deacons are ready for service after a brief hiatus in our meetings this summer! We are one of the groups that tend to the needs of the congregation. If you know of anyone who needs / wants a visit from us, please let us know (you can email Deb Streeter—[dhs4@cornell.edu](mailto:dhs4@cornell.edu)). Our committees continue to need your help, so let us know if you want to do any of the following:

- Join (!! ) as a member - we are a fun group and meetings are efficient! Pastor Cindy Weaver is our guide in all we do.
- Help us with occasional visitation to members who aren't able to attend.
- Contribute to the church's flower fund.
- Bring food for the Kitchen Cupboard.
- Let us know about a youth member headed to college / training who might be eligible for our student grant program.

We love to hear ideas about how we can further meet our mission to care for the congregation, so feel free to reach out.

We are looking forward to our first fall in-person meeting scheduled for Sunday September 4th at 12:30 in Dodds Hall. Lunch will be provided.



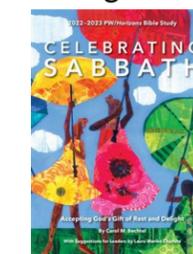
## Worship, Music, & Spiritual Life

### Small Group Book Study

The WMSL committee is planning to continue our small group book discussions beginning in September (after taking a short break). We have several books in mind and look forward to hearing from those who wish to be a part of a small group. Please contact Suzanne Courtney, Susan Van Sickle or Nita King if you want to be in a group.

### Celebrating Sabbath, Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight

Watch the bulletin for an announcement about this women's Bible study with Joanne Bartel scheduled to begin Wednesday September 14th at 2 pm.



### All Church Advent Devotionals

Did you enjoy receiving the Advent Devotionals written by members of our own congregation last year? The Worship, Music, and Spiritual Life Committee is considering putting together more new devotionals in 2022 but we need administrative help. The committee is willing to organize, gather, and edit all of the devotionals but we need someone to help design and upload the emails via the church's MailChimp account. Are you familiar with MailChimp and available to volunteer a few extra hours on this project in November and December? Or Are you good at typing and organizing material into layouts and programs? Please email Nita King at [nak1945@gmail.com](mailto:nak1945@gmail.com) if you would be able to help the committee continue these devotionals.



## Thank You to our Guest Preachers!

Some of our summer guest preachers may have been well-known to you, while others may have been new to you, but if you heard them preach, you will know what a treat it was to have them grace our pulpit. The many and varied voices offered new and challenging perspectives on some well-known and some not-so-well-known texts. If you heard them and would like to hear them again or if you missed the chance to hear them in person, you can find most of our summer services on our YouTube channel. If you would like a written copy, send us an email ([offie@firstpresithaca.org](mailto:offie@firstpresithaca.org)), and we will email a copy back to you, or you can stop by the church and pick up a paper copy.

Sunday, July 10: Elder James Nagy

“The Divine Transfer”

Deuteronomy 30: 9-14

Colossians 1:1-14 “...transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son...” Colossians 1:13



Sunday, July 17: Elder Elmer Ewing

“Remedy for Hubris: A Child Could Do It”

2 Samuel 11:27b-12:9, 13a

Matthew 18:1-4 “Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 18:4



Sunday, July 24: The Rev. Dr. Kenneth I. Clarke

“Be Still”

John 14:1-6

Psalm 46 “Be still, and know that I am God!” Psalm 46:10



Sunday, July 31: The Rev. C. Philip Courtney

“The Net”

Ephesians 2:11-22

Luke 5:1-11 “Jesus said to Simon, ‘Put out into deep water and let down your net for a catch.’ Luke 5:4



Sunday, August 14: Dr. La Jerne Terry Cornish

“Act Like You Know”

Luke 12: 49-56

Jeremiah 23:23-29 “Is not my word like a fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?” Jeremiah 23:29



Sunday, August 21: Deacon Mischa Dixon

“Those Christians”

Luke 13:10-17

Hebrews 12:18-29 “...and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.” Hebrews 12:24



## In Support of Ukraine



After more than a year of war, the Ukrainian people continue to resist the Russian invasion. Our monument in support of the Ukrainian people includes the Ukrainian flag still flying amidst the rubble of war. Surrounding it are the sunflowers planted by our congregation last May. Sunflowers are a symbol of Ukrainian identity, and their growth expresses hope that peace will soon come.

### A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,

we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,  
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace,  
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,  
that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Amen

Archbishop Justin Welby and Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

## Youth and Children

While we may not yet have a new Director of Christian Education, our Children’s and Youth programs will go on, though we are still in the planning stage. We do know that Godly Play will continue as it has with the children going to Godly Play after the Children’s Time in the worship service, and the Youth Group will hold its first meeting on Sunday, September 4th at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Room with Pastor Cindy. Stay tuned for more details!

### Save the Date!

We are looking forward to the Welcome Back/Return from Summer Picnic for our children, youth, and their families. When asked if they would host this picnic, Margaret Shackell and Glen Dowell answered with a hearty, “Yes!” The picnic will be in their backyard, 21 Placid Terrace, Lansing, on Saturday, September 10th from 5-7 p.m. We will provide the food, the drinks, and the games, so wear your best picnic-fun attire and join the party.

### September Godly Play Schedule

Date	Godly Play Story	Story Teller	Door Person	Church Activity
September 4	The Circle of the Church Year	Laura	Kate	Communion
September 11	The Holy Bible	Ben	Linda	
September 18	Holy Family	David	Ben	
September 25	Good Shepherd	Kate	Linda	

*The **Children and Youth Program** needs your help!*

There are so many ways to serve—as a nursery volunteer, a Godly Play storyteller or doorperson, as a helper with youth events, or by serving on the YMSS committee once a month. Parents and caregivers especially welcome!

## Thank you to our Picnic Hosts

What a wonderful summer of picnics we had! The weather cooperated, and we had only one picnic cancelled due to rain, but we filled the backyards of our hosts on seven Wednesday nights in July and August. Remember to keep your Wednesday nights clear as you make your plans for Summer 2023!

### Thank you to:

Margaret Shackell and Glen Dowell

Marilyn and Elmer Ewing

Armando Pacheco and Hector Aguilar-Carreno

Beth Boyer and Mike Brown

Christina and Jeb Mead

Angie and William Chen

Susan and Fred Van Sickle

Suzanne Scholten and Joseph Tonzola

