



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect

Twenty-ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time • October 20, 2024 • 10:00am
178 OENOK RIDGE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 • 203-966-0002 • FPCNC.ORG

Grace and peace to you, and welcome!

As you prepare for worship, please sign the red welcome pad found at the center of each aisle so that we will know you worshipped with us. Then pass it to your neighbor. The last person to sign the pad should pass it back to the center of the aisle. We suggest you prayerfully allow the silent, sacred space of where you are, and the quiet stirrings of the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

**PLEASE STAND IN BODY AND/OR SPIRIT.*

THE GATHERING

Prelude: Andante cantabile (from *Symphonie IV, Op. 13*) Charles-Marie Widor

***Call to Worship (based on Mark 10:35-45)** Stephanie Hare

Leader: The Son of Man came not to be served

People: but to serve.

Leader: Let us follow Christ,

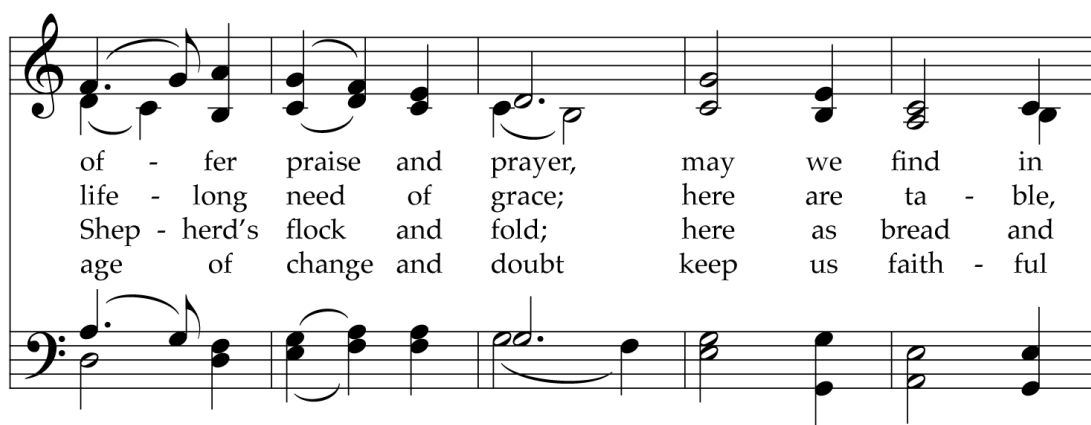
People: not seeking glory, but ways to serve.

Leader: Called to worship,

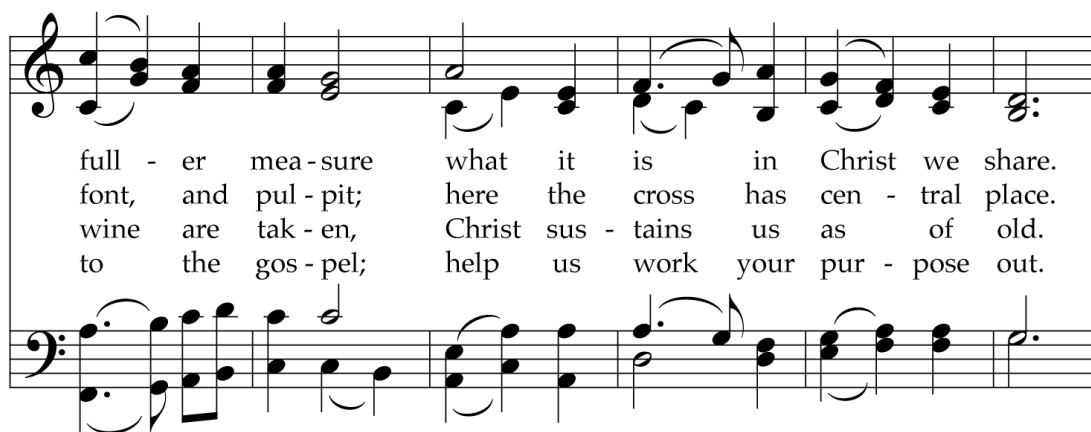
People: we offer ourselves humbly before our God.



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an



of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful



full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
 font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
 wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
 to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we



Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Scott Herr

Minute for Mission/Stewardship

Cindy Graziano and Bob Spangler

Blessing for our Younger Disciples

Stephanie Hare

Call to Confession

Cindy Graziano

Leader: Our God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Let us embrace this time of confession with honesty and humility.

Confession of Sin (unison)

Cindy Graziano

Holy God, your truth is oftentimes hard to hear. We confess our avoidance, our purposeful distractions, our prideful arrogance that keeps us from hearing and responding to your Word. Although you send us messages and messengers, we dismiss and disregard those who tell us we are wrong. Have mercy upon us, Holy God. Open us to hearing the truth no matter how it is conveyed...

(silence for further individual reflection and repentance...)

Leader: In Jesus' name we pray.

People: **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Cindy Graziano

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. So, hear and believe the good news:

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made righteous! Amen!

***Gloria Patri (No. 581)**

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.**

***Passing of the Peace**

Cindy Graziano

Leader: The first words of the risen Christ to his followers were, "Peace be with you." May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please share that peace with one another.

Congregation greets one another and shares the peace of Christ

THE WORD

Lighting the Candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice and Peace

Stacy Arevalo

Leader: Today we light a candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice and Peace....

People – Sung response Hymn No. 757, verse 3: Today We All are Called to Be Disciples *Kingsfold*

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for a harmony of peace.

First Lesson – Exodus 2:1-10

The Rev. Scott Herr

¹Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

⁵The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" ⁸Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Children of the heavenly Father Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in Heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish; in His holy courts they flourish;
From all evil things He spares them; In His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever,
Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.

Though He giveth and He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

FPCNC Choir

Second Lesson – Matthew 18:1-5

The Rev. Dr. Christy Lang Hearlson

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ²He called a child, whom he put among them, ³and said, "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Welcoming the Child"

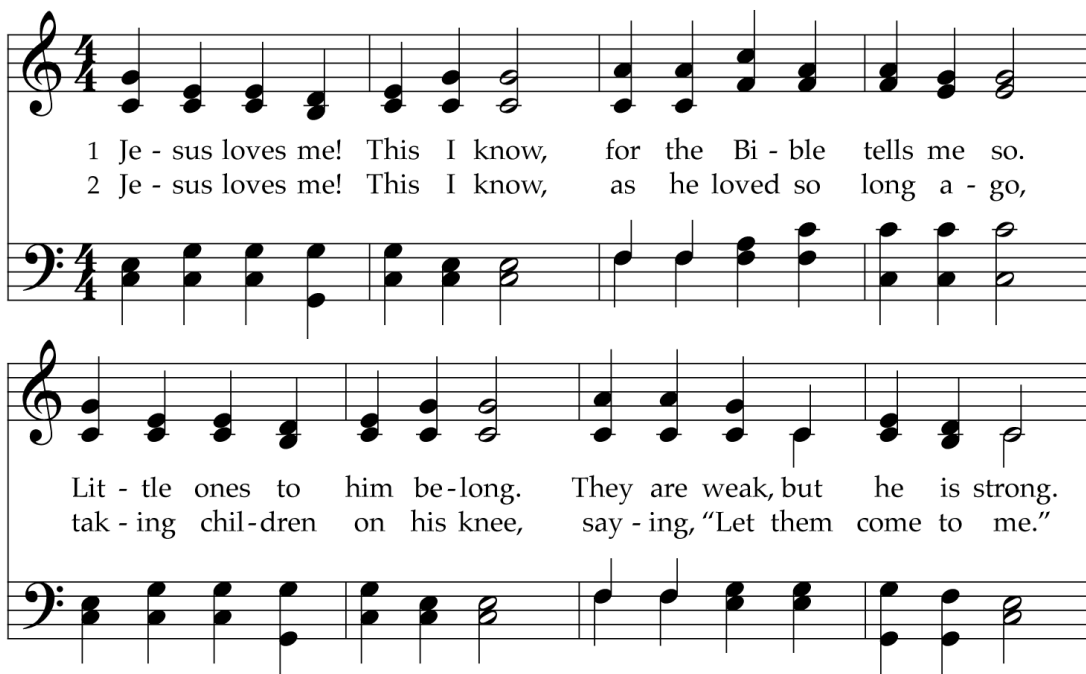
The Rev. Dr. Christy Lang Hearlson

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith – Hymn No. 188:

Jesus Loves Me!

Jesus Loves Me



1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.
2 Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go,
Lit - tle ones to him be-long. They are weak, but he is strong.
tak - ing chil-dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."

Refrain

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of two systems. The first system has two staves for the voices and one for the piano. The second system also has two staves for the voices and one for the piano. The piano part is written in G major, 4/4 time, and features a simple harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are 'Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!' for the first system and 'Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.' for the second system.

Prayers of the People

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Call for the Offering

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

Minister: Let us give and live generously in response to all that God has done for us. Let us present our tithes and offerings to the Lord.

Solo

He's Got the Whole World in His Hand

Arranged by Margaret Bonds

He's got the whole world in His hand. He's got the woods and the waters in His hands. He's got the sun and the moon right in His hand. He's got the birds and the bees right in His hand. He's got the beasts of the field right in His hand. He's got you and me right in His hand. He's got everybody in His hand. He's got the whole world in His hand.

Devin Mitchell - bass

***Doxology:**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

Cindy Graziano

Holy God, these offerings are only a portion of all that you have given us. We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them to your work in this world. May our gifts share the Good News of

the gospel to those who are in need. May these gifts help unburden those with the heaviest of loads. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn No. 46:

Unless the Lord the House Shall Build

Bourbon

1 Un - less the Lord the house shall build, the
2 In vain you rise at morn - ing break, and
3 Like ar - rows in full quiv - ers stored are

wea - ry build - ers toil in vain; un - less the Lord the
late your night - ly vig - ils keep, and wea - ry days of
chil - dren given in days of youth; for chil - dren are a

cit - y shield, the guards a use - less watch main - tain.
toil par - take; for God's be - lov - ed there is sleep.
great re - ward, a gift from God in ver - y truth.

*Benediction

The Rev. Dr. Christy Lang Hearlson

*Choral Amen

*Ringing of the Church Bell

*Postlude:

Finale (from *Symphonie IV, Op. 13*)

Charles-Marie Widor

***Join us in the Common Room after worship for a time of fellowship,
coffee/tea and snacks and stop by the Welcome Table.***

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Welcome to worship on this 29th Sunday of “Ordinary Time”! We’re glad you are here and welcome also The Rev. Dr. Christy Lang Hearlson as our guest preacher today. You can read Christy’s bio below. She is a leading thinker and writer on children and spirituality and we welcome her both in worship and to lead our Adult Forum after worship. Using the texts from Exodus and Matthew, Christy will help us to reflect more deeply on how children are part of our worshipping community, and how we might better welcome them as not just “future” but as “present” members of our church family! We pray that you (and all our children) will be spiritually refreshed and socially reoriented for the week ahead.

October 20, 2024 – The Rev. Dr. Christy Lang Hearlson
Guest Preacher (10:00am) and Adult Forum Speaker (11:30am)

Adult Forum Topic: Let the Little Children Be Bored?

Have you ever heard a child complain that church is boring? While some ministry experts claim it is a sin to bore a kid in church, others say we should let our chronically overstimulated children experience boredom. What should adults do? Make church more entertaining? Tell kids to embrace their boredom? Before we act, perhaps we should try to understand what causes children’s boredom—and what prompts children to engage. Dr. Christy Lang Hearlson, an award-winning professor in the department of Theology and Religious Studies at Villanova University, will help us investigate what our children’s boredom is telling us—and what we can do about it.



Rev. Dr. Christy Lang Hearlson is Associate Professor of Religious and Theological Education at Villanova University. Originally from Washington State, she served as Associate Pastor at The Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City from 2005-2010 and then earned a PhD in Practical Theology and Christian education from Princeton Theological Seminary (2016). She has co-edited a volume on youth ministry and theological education and published essays on pedagogy in theological education, children’s spirituality, and ecological spirituality. At Villanova, she helped establish the Heart of Teaching program, which trains graduate students to be excellent teachers and leaders, and in which she teaches courses on pedagogy. She teaches additional courses on children’s spiritual lives, the spirituality of attention, water and Christian theology, and ecology and spirituality. She has received two awards at Villanova for her teaching, the 2022 Junior Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award and the 2023 Grace Adolphsen Brame Trust Faculty Award. She is currently co-directing the Children, Liturgy, Ecology, and Renewal (CLEAR) Project, funded with a \$1.25 million grant from the Lilly Endowment. Christy lives near Philadelphia with her spouse, Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson, and their two young sons. She is an avid gardener and wishes it would rain in Pennsylvania.

Sunday School! Join us as we are exploring Bible stories and all our questions about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the world around us. Children begin worship in the Sanctuary with their families then following the Blessing for Young Disciples, we move to our Sunday School classes upstairs in the Bliss House.

If your child is participating in Sunday School, please fill out this very short form so that we have up-to-date family contact numbers, and you can provide us with any information about your child that will help us minister to them: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/2024SundaySchoolStudents>

Adults or older teens who want to come be part of the fun of Sunday School, we need you! Join us and bring your own sense of wonder and joy as we learn together what it means to be part of God’s big family. Let us know of your interest by filling out this form: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/Teachers2024-25>, or reach out to Steph Hare – stephanie@fpcnc.org

TODAY IN WORSHIP (Cont'd)

Have a prayer request? We are called to pray without ceasing... In addition to receiving prayers during the service with the microphone, our **new prayer box** offers the opportunity to submit handwritten prayer requests at any time. The box will be kept in the back of the church adjacent to the Sanctuary



entrance. Any prayer requests will be brought into the Sanctuary for worship by the Ushers. These requests will be included in our Prayers of the People for that Sunday. You will have the option to exclude your prayer from the communal prayer if you prefer. All prayers will be held and prayed over in confidence. Any questions or concerns, please see Stacy (sarevalo@fpcnc.org).



FPCNC also offers **babysitting during our Sunday Service** provided by Saturnina Greeves and Lizz Reyes from Wee Care Nanny Agency. Our Nursery is located just off our Common Room vestibule down the long hall from the Sanctuary and is available between the hours of 8:45–11:30am. **Parental and guardian sign-in is required and we do ask that you pick up your child promptly after the Service.**

Welcome Table

Our Welcome Table will be set up and available each week as a resource for you to ask questions and learn about different ways to be involved in the life of this congregation, including music, study, fellowship, prayer and service opportunities in the church and community. Feel free to stop by our Table after worship during Coffee Hour.

Cents-ability UPDATE – thanks to everyone for dropping your change into the Cents-ability jar – the last few months we’ve collected \$148 for a total so far this year of \$248. The Cents-ability jar is in the hallway on the way to the Common Room. Please drop your spare change into the jar either on the way to Coffee Hour or whenever you’re at church. You can also take home a small cents-ability bank to collect change. All change collected will be donated to the New Canaan Food Pantry. Thank you for your awareness and generous response to hunger.



SIGN UP to Read, Usher or Greet <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday>

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:



DONATE:



ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

Today's organ music is composed by **Charles-Marie Widor**. French organist, composer and teacher Charles-Marie Widor was born in Lyon on 21 February 1844. His family were organ builders, and he studied initially with his father, then moved to Brussels for organ tuition with Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens and composition studies with François-Joseph Fétis. He then moved to Paris, where, a year later, he became Organist at Saint-Sulpice. He also travelled internationally as one of the world's leading organists. As a composer, Widor wrote operas, a ballet, orchestral works, songs and choral works, and chamber and piano music. He's best known for his organ music, and in particular for his ten organ symphonies. For six years he was organ professor at the Paris Conservatoire, and then became Composition Professor, where his students included Marcel Dupré, Darius Milhaud, Charles Tournemire, Edgard Varèse and Louis Vierne. He also co-founded the American Conservatory at Fontainebleau in 1921 and was its director until 1934. Widor died at home in Paris on 12 March 1937, aged ninety-three.

Our FPCNC Choir anthem is arranged by **Dan Forrest** (b. 1978). Dan's work ranges from small choral works to instrumental solo works, wind ensemble works, and extended multi-movement works for chorus and orchestra. His *Requiem for the Living* (2013) and *Jubilate Deo* (2016) have become standard choral/orchestral repertoire for ensembles around the world. Dan holds a doctorate in composition and a master's degree in piano performance, and served for several years as a professor and department head (music theory and composition) in higher education. He currently serves as Editor at Beckenhorst Press, Chair of the American Choral Director's Association Composition Initiatives Committee, adjunct Faculty at Furman University, and Artist-In-Residence at Mitchell Road Presbyterian Church (Greenville, SC).

Bass, Devin Mitchell sings music for our offertory composed by **Margaret Bonds** (1913-1972). Her mother, Estella Bonds, was a trained musician who taught piano and served as church choral director and organist. Margaret began studying piano with her mother at a very early age. By the time she reached age eight, she had progressed to studying at the Coleridge-Taylor Music School. Eventually, she studied composition with Florence Price and William Dawson. In 1929, she was admitted to Northwestern University, where she was allowed to study but not to live or use their facilities. She received her master's degree in music from Northwestern in 1934. That same year, she became the first African American to perform with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and she was the featured pianist for the Woman's Symphony Orchestra of Chicago's performance of Price's Piano Concerto in D Minor. Bonds continued refining her skills as a composer. She also made a living by teaching piano to area students, including ten-year-old Ned Rorem. Bonds relocated to New York in 1939. Bonds also studied composition privately with famed composer Roy Harris and piano with Diane Herz at Julliard. During the 1950's, Bonds composed a number of works using the poems of Langston Hughes—whom she had finally met in 1936 and with whom she became close friends over the years. One of Bonds' most well-known settings was *He's Got the Whole World in His Hand* – heard this morning, and commissioned by and composed for Leontyne Price in 1963.

TODAY



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

REV. DR. CHRISTY LANG HEARLSON

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF RELIGIOUS AND THEOLOGICAL
EDUCATION AT VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY

OCTOBER 20, 2024

178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN CT

10 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

11:30 AM ADULT FORUM

DISCUSSING:

LET THE

LITTLE CHILDREN

BE BORED?

ALL ARE WELCOME!



WWW.FPCNC.ORG

THIS WEEK

FPC OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, October 21: **OFFICE CLOSED – Wendy is out**

Tuesday – Friday, October 22 – October 25: **9:00am – 4:00pm**

(For any Pastoral Care needs, please contact Scott (203-921-7536, Mary (203-921-9434) or Stephanie (914-826-1227) or Stacy (203-219-5818) or call the office at 203-966-0002 ext 1 or send an email to wendy@fpcnc.org.)



Join the Men's Gathering this coming Wednesday, October 23 at 7:00am for a talk on *Faith in Troubled Times*. "Fear not..." is one of the most common admonitions in the Bible. Angels are always starting out with "Fear not..." Jesus often taught his disciples to "Be not afraid!" Bob Proctor once said, "Both faith and fear require belief in something you can't see: pick one!" Come hear Scott share about some of the times he's been afraid and how faith has given him strength and courage to

persevere. All men are welcome, and feel free to invite any friends. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday at 7am! Contact Wendy wendy@fpcnc.org or Mark Magnusen mmagnusen@yahoo.com for the Zoom link to join the meeting. See you then!

CALENDAR-AT-A-GLANCE

Sunday, Oct. 20, 10am & 11:30am	Dr. Christy Lang Hearlson – Guest Preacher and Adult Forum talk
Sunday, Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3	Sermon on the Mount – 5:30-7pm with dinner
Wed, Oct. 23, 7:00am	Men's Gathering (Zoom)
Wed. Oct. 23, 30, 7-8:00pm	<i>Public Faith for Troubled Times</i> – Wednesdays via Zoom
Sunday, Oct. 27, 10am & 11:30am	Welcome New Members & Reception
Sunday, Nov. 3, 10:00am	All Saints' Day
Wed, Nov. 6, 7:00am	Men's Gathering (Zoom)
Sunday, Nov. 10, 11:30am	Coffee Concert (Sanctuary)
Sunday, Nov. 17, 11:30am-1:30pm	Adult Forum – Surviving the Holidays - <i>support for people working through grief</i> (includes lunch). More info to follow.
Wed, Nov. 20, 12:00-1:30pm	Men's Gathering (In Person in Common Room)
Wed., Nov. 20, 6:00pm	Wednesday at the Well – 3 rd Wednesday every month

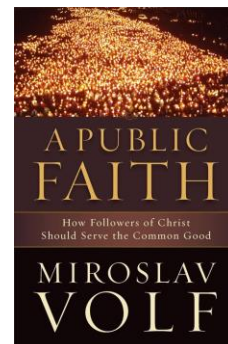
ONGOING PROGRAMS

Bible Reading – Sunday mornings at 9:00am in the Parlor

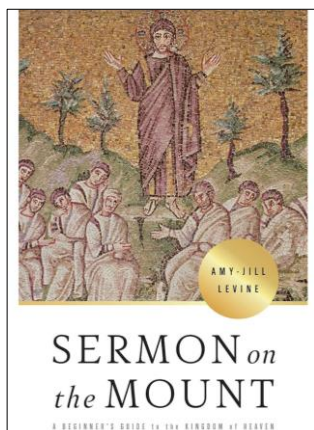
We meet each week as a community of believers to read through the Bible, using the Lectionary as our guide. Please reach out to Stacy (sarevalo@fpcnc.org) with any questions.

Wednesday Weekly Bible Studies, led by Darlene Harmon, meets every Wednesday at **10:00am**. The focus of the study is the Apostle Paul and his three missionary journeys in the book of Acts to spread the Good News about the life and teachings of Jesus to Gentiles. Please come at 9:45am to share a cup of tea or coffee. We hope you can come join us! Everyone is invited!

Faith and Politics Conversation: Are you anxious about the upcoming election? Does it seem to you that Christian faith has been hijacked by many who do not seek the common good? Given the controversial presidential elections coming up, we will be offering an on-line course called **Public Faith for Troubled Times** on Wednesday, October 23 and 30 from 7:00–8:00pm using Miroslav Volf's book, *Public Faith*. Follow this link for more information on this course: <https://youtu.be/4rQre8IUyuc?si=6XHOjKKcGiq3tq6l>



You are invited to join this on-line discussion group that will also highlight video clips from Miroslav Volf, Henry B. Wright Professor of Systematic Theology at *Yale Divinity School*, and Founding Director, Yale Center for Faith & Culture. Together we will consider how we live out our faith in the current context of strong political disagreement and cultural discontent. **Contact Scott for Zoom link.**



Sermon on the Mount

Have you ever wondered about the origin of the Lord's Prayer? You are welcome to continue with us on our journey through the Sermon on the Mount. Come see how the kingdom of heaven is closer than you think! Join us on **Sunday evenings (5:30-7:00pm) October 20, 27, and Nov. 3** for dinner, a video, and small group discussion on Amy-Jill Levine's book, *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*. This Sunday, October 20 we will be discussing Chapter 4 and will cover the Lord's Prayer and its significance as disciples of Christ. Please contact Stacy at sarevalo@fpcnc.org with any questions or to buy a book.

Wednesdays at the Well – monthly

We're gathering monthly for dinner and intergenerational fun and faith development on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 6:00–7:30pm. **Our next Wednesday at the Well will be on November 20.** All ages are warmly welcome to learn and grow together! For more information, reach out to Steph Hare at stephanie@fpcnc.org.



SAVE THE DATE

All Saints day is Sunday, November 3 when we will honor and give thanks for the members of the community of faith who have died in the past year. ***The names below represent members of this congregation, loved ones of members and people of the community. Please review the below list and if there is anyone that you would like added or changed, please contact Wendy in the Church Office before Thursday, October 31st.***

In Memoriam for All Saints Sunday (November 6, 2023 – November 3, 2024)

Ruth Swanberg (October 22, 2023) Member
Connie Musa (October 26, 2023) Member
Anne MacKenzie (November 4, 2023) past attendee
Abby Dittmann Wise (November 14, 2023) Member
Marion Blose (November 16, 2023) Member
John Edwards (December 2, 2023) Member
Mara Hollander (December 18, 2023) (friend of Lanah Holden)
Karen Wells (January 1, 2024) Member
Marie “Nury” Ospina (January 1, 2024) (mother of Diego Ospina)
Mark McEvoy (January 27, 2024) (brother of Dan McEvoy)
Penny Powell (January 29, 2024) (Mother-In-Law of Bob Spangler)
Toby Woods (February 21, 2024) Member
Gail Harden (Lucy) (March 1, 2024) Former Member
Julia Voorhies (March 3, 2024) Member
Jack Fonss (March 19, 2024) (husband of Janet Fonss)
Devon Reich (April 28, 2024) (daughter of Wendy Starr’s friend)
Marian Morton “Maru” Brown (April 29, 2024) Member
Melissa Harrison (May 2, 2024) (sister of Kim Herr)
Sydney Mosemann (May 3, 2024) (Martha Herr’s brother, Scott’s Uncle)
Eric Musa (June 7, 2024)
Ann Byrne (June 4, 2024)
Jim Daley (June 4, 2024) (friend of Maxine Gaddis)
Denise Spiroff (June 9, 2024) (friend of Maxine Gaddis)
Norma Spangler (June 24, 2024) (mother of Bob Spangler)
Sister St. Edward McLaughlin (July 16, 2024) (friend of Maxine Gaddis)
Jim Dillon (August 19, 2024) (Brother-In-Law of Barbara Wentzel)
Marianne Johnson (August 26, 2024) (cousin of Mary Thies)
Mark Harmon (September 8, 2024) (husband of Darlene Harmon)
Elliot Kropf (September 14, 2024) (NCHS Senior)



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

Coffee Concert

*Enjoy Coffee Hour after Worship...
return to the Sanctuary
for a 30-40 minute program of Sacred Solos.*



Lisa Flanagan, Soprano
Jamie Ratcliffe, Alto
Nikolas Brannan, Tenor
Devin Mitchell, Bass

Sunday, November 10
11:30 am

178 Oenoke Ridge Rd | New Canaan, CT 06840
www.fpcnc.org | 203-966-0002

MISSION & OUTREACH

OCTOBER 2024 UPDATE

SURVEY: We have recently published a survey to gauge the congregation's interest in our various proposed 2024-25 mission activities. We continue to receive good insight on the congregation's interest, but if you haven't taken the survey, follow this link or grab a hard copy of the survey at the Welcome Table to the Common room. Online Survey: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/d2ea2f> Thank you! We want to hear from you. We will review and share those results the last weekend of October.

Upcoming events!

The next New Covenant House volunteer day will be Saturday, November 2 and the FPC Staff will be prepping food and serving meals that day.

For the second year in a row, OCTOBER is Service Month! A table is set up in the back of the Sanctuary with bins for donations of: Socks, underwear, diapers and twin sheets.

We will have visiting speakers in November—Moment for Mission at our Sunday worship. They will share how your generous giving is multiplied.

In 2024, your financial donations, almost \$30,000, have helped so many. And, The DOVE program is right around the corner, too.



EDITOR'S NOTES

Birth Announcement

Wynne Sanford Holden Jr. (Ford) was born on October 14th at Stamford Hospital. He weighed 9lbs and is 21 inches long... The parents, Wynne and Chelsea Holden, are doing great. His maternal great Grandparents are Gordon and Marilyn Jones, maternal Grandparents John and Lanah Holden, Uncle Taylor and Aunt Laura Holden and cousins Kirk and Smith Holden.



"**Ordinary Time**" holds significant importance in the Presbyterian Church as it represents a period of growth, reflection, and discipleship within the liturgical calendar. While not marked by major feasts or celebrations like Advent or Easter, this time allows congregants to delve deeper into the ordinary rhythms of life and faith, emphasizing the everyday moments where God's presence is found. It serves as a reminder that the Christian journey is not solely defined by dramatic events or high holy days but is profoundly shaped by the consistent practice of worship, service, and community throughout the year. In this season, Presbyterian believers are encouraged to nurture their spiritual lives, cultivate relationships, and live out their faith in practical ways, fostering a deeper connection to God and one another amidst the ebb and flow of ordinary existence.



During this time, you will see our green paraments that were new last year. The design on the paraments were inspired by our stain glass windows and mid-century modern atmosphere. We hope that as you worship in our Sanctuary or online that you will find spiritual significance and differing interpretations of these designs over the coming months.

Worship, Music & Arts Committee

COMMUNITY



**RUTH STEINKRAUS COHEN
MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES**

SPONSORED BY THE UNASWCT CHAPTER,
IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNA CT CHAPTER

*Key Issues Facing the World and
the United Nations Today*

GUEST SPEAKER:
CONGRESSMAN JIM HIMES
Representing Connecticut's 4th District

United Nations Day • October 24, 2024
Westport Library

Please be our guest at a private reception
before the talk with Congressman Jim Himes
Light refreshments will be served
Komansky Room • Westport Library • 5:30-6:30 pm
Please RSVP to Gloria Nussbaum
gloriabnuss@gmail.com

Please register here for the talk immediately
following the reception.

Trefz Forum • Westport Library • 7:00 pm.

TO REGISTER VISIT
<http://UNDaySpeaker.org>



UNA*USA
Southwest Connecticut Chapter

unaswct.org

**THIS
MONTH!**

NEW CANAAN

Behavioral Health

ALLIANCE

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELL-BEING SURVEY

**Your Results Will Guide Decisions and
Resources Impacting Our Community's
Health, Mental Health, and Well-Being**

New Canaan Behavioral Health Alliance Members

Catalyst CT / The Hub
Child Guidance Center of Southern CT
Community Health Centers
Domestic Violence Crisis Center
Family and Children's Agency
Family Centers
Kids In Crisis
Lapham Center
Laurel House
Liberation Programs
Mental Health & Autism Insurance Project
Mid-Fairfield Community Care Center
Mountainside Treatment Center
New Canaan Abuse Prevention Partnership
New Canaan CARES
New Canaan Community Foundation
New Canaan Country School
New Canaan EMS
New Canaan Fire Department
New Canaan Human Services

New Canaan Library
New Canaan Parent Support Group
New Canaan Parks and Recreation
New Canaan Police Department
New Canaan Public Schools
New Canaan Recovery Corps
New Canaan YMCA
Ram Council Foundation
St. Luke's School
Silver Hill Hospital
Stand Together Against Racism
Staying Put in New Canaan
The Lighthouse
The Rowan Center
Thrive With a Guide
Town of New Canaan
Voices Center for Resilience
Waveny LifeCare Network
Women Empowering Women Institute

**100% NEW CANAAN
EVERY VOICE
COUNTS!**

newcanaanbha.org



**Take
5-Minute
Survey
Today!**

COMMUNITY (Cont'd)



Waveny Lifecare Network's

NAVIGATOR

Alzheimer's at Home for New Canaan

Providing support and
guidance to those impacted by
Alzheimer's in New Canaan

All Communications Confidential

- » Personal Alzheimer's Navigation Specialists
- » 24/7 accessibility
- » Complimentary grant based program
- » Exclusive respite apartment
- » Access to adult day programming
- » Assistance with trusted affiliated resources
outside of the Waveny Network
- » Wellness checks
- » Alzheimer's-specific caregiver support groups
- » Expedited access to Waveny's continuum
- » Dedicated mobile app

Contact us for a consultation
Phone: 203-594-5289
Email: Navigator@waveny.org

In collaboration with



NEW CANAAN
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



Finding the right behavioral health support for yourself, family member or a friend can feel overwhelming. The New Canaan Behavioral Health Alliance (NCBHA) is excited to announce the launch of its website. New Canaan Human Services, NCCF and Silver Hill Hospital have partnered with over 30 local agencies and organizations to encourage, develop and support a greater community awareness of behavioral health issues and resources in our area. To talk directly to someone that can help navigate available resources, or just to see what behavioral health events are happening around the area, visit www.newcanaanbha.org.



DVCC

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRISIS CENTER
SINCE 1980

CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

2024 Hurricane Season



As we reel from the multi-state devastation of Hurricane Helene, we know there will be more storms this hurricane season. As of this moment, another, Hurricane Milton, has developed into a life-threatening category 5, en route to several of the same affected areas. Your gifts to support our response this season will ensure no community is left behind and give us the ability to respond even when there is little media coverage.

It will take years to recover. After initial needs are addressed, PDA will remain — providing emotional and spiritual care and long-term recovery to address unmet and ongoing needs.

The needs for the response will be great. God's people are called on to stand in the "GAP" — Give. Act. Pray.

GIVE: Donations can be made online by **scanning** this QR code with your mobile device, **calling** (800) 728-7228, ext. 5885, or **mailing** a check using the reply device below.



ACT: Assemble emergency cleanup buckets (visit pcusa.info/heart). Learn how you can help families affected by hurricanes. Stay informed and like us on Facebook (facebook.com/PDAcares).

PRAY: *God of grace and compassion,*

May your Spirit move in this, your creation, bringing peace amid the turmoil and breathing hope into the places that feel broken. May your Spirit continue to be the quiet but constant reassurance that you are with your children and creation, even in the darkest moments, guiding us toward healing and restoration.

☐ \$500 ☐ \$125 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other \$ _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Congregation/PIN _____

#3719

Please detach the reply form and return it with your gift to your church, or mail with your check to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

Online or In Check Memo: "Hurricane Helene & Milton"



PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Please keep the following people in your hearts.


Continued prayers and concerns: Tim and Kate Albert (friends of the Holden family); David Altchek undergoing medical treatments (Charles Altchek's father); Prayers of healing for Andy (Steph Hare's friend); "Turbo Tony" Benthin (an old running buddy of Jim Reihl's) who has entered Hospice at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota; Maryann Donnan (Michele Bergeal's mother); Judy and Tom Duncan (Lisa Flanagan's parents); Peter Findlay (Mimi Findlay's brother-in-law); Amy Granato (Julie Fowler's sister); Barbara Holt (friend of Nancy LaBadie); Rye James (RJ) Hurley (great nephew of Cindy Graziano); David Johnson (Elsbeth Johnson's son); Denise Lynch; Nancy Morse (Kay Brix's friend) who will be having surgery week of October 14; Sandy Nissley; Marlene Powers; Nancy Russell (Linda Martin's sister) who is suffering from lung failure and awaiting a lung transplant; Joan Scherman (Mark Magnusen's friend); Kathy Ullerich (Wendy Starr's friend); the Abo Noktah family (the Syrian family FPCNC sponsored): father Khaldoun, mother Khawla Alzob, daughters Hanin, Zain and Hayat, and sons Yaman and Ahmed, and Khaldoun's mother, Nam Abo Noktah.

We continue to pray for the families and friends of the victims who have been affected by gun violence.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is our presence around the world when disasters happen. Through them we are on the ground around the world, responding to the enormous needs following wildfires and earthquakes and during war.

PSNE Community Prayer: For Woodbury Union Presbyterian Church, its Members, Session, Seekers, and the Community of Warwick, RI.

GROW IN FAITH

 **SILVER HILL HOSPITAL** If you know of someone in urgent need of mental health support, please remember the resource that our town has in the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. The town, in partnership with Silver Hill Hospital, is prepared to offer psychiatric assessment and tailored referral for ongoing care. The Program serves children, teens and adults who are New Canaan residents free of charge. To schedule an intake call, email NCUA@silverhillhospital.org or call Silver Hill Hospital admissions at 1-866-542-4455 and indicate that you are asking about the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. For more details use this link: <https://silverhillhospital.org/new-canaan-urgent-assessment-program/>

Pastoral Care Team: Do you know of someone who needs a visitor or a phone call? Our congregation is fortunate to have a team of people who are ready to reach out to church members who are facing a life crisis. They may be in declining health, shut-ins, living in a care facility, grieving, or struggling with a significant change in their circumstances. Our Pastoral Care Team, made up of Stacy Arevalo, Peg Bull, Kathy Edwards, Debera Prosek, Ellen Sisson, and The Rev. Mary Thies, is ready to provide pastoral care to church members who are dealing with such a situation. If you know of someone who could benefit from this ministry or if you have questions about the work of the team, please call the church office 203-966-0002 (ext 1).



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of NEW CANAAN

SUNDAY, October 20

9 am Weekly Bible Reading (Parlor)
9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Sunday Worship
11:15 am Coffee Hour
11:30 am Adult Forum – Christy Lang Hearlson
5:30 pm Sermon on the Mount dinner/discussion

MONDAY, October 21

OFFICE CLOSED

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Lawn)
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons
7 pm Purple Heather Dancers

TUESDAY, October 22

9:30 am St. A's Walking with a Purpose
9:30, 10:30, 11:30 Jumpin' Jams (Lawn)
10:30 am Staff Leadership Meeting
8 pm Men's A.A. Group (closed)

WEDNESDAY, October 23

7 am Men's Gathering
10 am Weekly Bible Studies

WEDNESDAY, October 23

4:30 pm English Handbells Rehearsal
7 pm Public Faith for Troubled Times (Zoom)

THURSDAY, October 24

3:30-5 pm Special Church
7 pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, October 25

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Lawn)
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons

SATURDAY, October 26

9:15 am A.A. Group (closed)
10:30 am A.A. Group (open)
10am-2pm Charis Chamber Voices Rehearsal

SUNDAY, October 27

9 am Weekly Bible Reading (Parlor)
9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Sunday Worship (Stewardship Sunday)
11:15 am Coffee Hour & Welcome New Members
5:30 pm Sermon on the Mount dinner/discussion

THOSE PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

FPCNC Choir with

Lisa Flanagan – soprano, Jamie Ratcliffe – alto, Nikolas Brannan – tenor, Devin Mitchell – bass

Greeters: Debera Prosek and Keith Simpson

Lay Readers: Cindy Graziano, Stacy Arevalo and Stephanie Hare

Ushers: Jim Ely and Janet Lanaway

Cross Bearer: Len Graziano

MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

OUR PASTORS

The Reverend Dr. R. Scott Herr, Senior Pastor • The Reverend Mary Marple Thies, Parish Associate

OUR STAFF

Terence J. Flanagan, Director of Music and Fine Arts • Stephanie L. Hare, Director of Family Ministries
Stacy Arevalo, Director of Pastoral Care, Adult Discipleship and Spiritual Formation
Jim Riehl, Business Administrator • Wendy Starr, Office Manager • Kate and Matt Ziance, Operations Managers

SIGN UP to Read, Usher or Greet <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday>

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