



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect

Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time • June 21, 2026 • 10:00am
178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 • 203-966-0002 • FPCNC.ORG

*Grace and peace to you, and welcome!
Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here—
with whatever joys, questions, or tears you bring today—
as we worship God, who welcomes us all!*

THE GATHERING

Prelude:

Andante (from *1re Symphonie, Op. 14*)

Louis Vierne

*You are invited to listen for God's Spirit
speaking through the music of the Prelude
as we prepare our hearts for worship.*

***Call to Worship (based on Psalm 86)**

The Rev. Scott Herr

Leader: God is good and forgiving.

All: God is abounding in steadfast love to all who call to God.

Leader: God listens to our prayers

All: And to our cries of supplication.

Leader: There is none like God among all the other gods;

All: There are no works like his.

Leader: God is great and does wondrous things.

All: The Lord alone is God.

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

1 New songs of cel - e - bra - tion ren - der to God who
 2 Joy - ful - ly, heart - i - ly re - sound - ing, let ev - ery
 3 Riv - ers and seas and tor - rents roar - ing, hon - or the

has great won - ders done; love sits en - throned in age - less
 in - stru - ment and voice peal out the praise of grace a -
 Lord with wild ac - claim; moun - tains and stones, look up a -

splen - dor; come and a - dore the might - y One.
 bound - ing, call - ing the whole world to re - joice.
 dor - ing, and find a voice to praise God's name.

God has made known the great sal - va - tion which all the
 Trum - pets and or - gans, set in mo - tion such sounds as
 Righ - teous, com - mand - ing, ev - er glo - rious, prais - es be

saints with joy con - fess. God has re - vealed to ev - ery
 make the heav - ens ring; all things that live in earth and
 sung that nev - er cease: just is our God, whose truth vic -

na - tion truth and un - end - ing righ - teous - ness.
 o - cean, sound forth the song; your prais - es bring.
 to - rious es - tab - lish - es the world in peace.

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Scott Herr

Blessing for our Younger Disciples

Leah Saulsberry

Children are invited to attend Sunday School following the children's message.

Call to Confession

Armin Thies

Leader: In Christ, we have left the old country of sin behind and entered into the new country of grace. But all too often we wander back into old territory. Confident of God's grace, let us confess our sinful wanderings.

Confession of Sin (unison)

Armin Thies

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life and yet we live as though you have made no promises. Forgive us for preferring darkness to light, for rejecting your gifts, for forgetting your love and acting as though we belonged only to ourselves. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us and free us from sin. Remind us of the promises you make in baptism, so that we may rise to new life in Christ. Amen.

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

Leader: In Jesus' name we pray.

All: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (based on Romans 6:9-10)

Armin Thies

Leader: When Jesus died, he took sin down with him, but alive he brings God down to us. From now on, think of it this way: Sin speaks a dead language that means nothing to you; God speaks your mother tongue, and you hang on every word. You are dead to sin and alive to God.

All: Praise be to God. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Gloria Patri

Gloria Patri

Terence J. Flanagan

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly
6 Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be,
11 world with - out end, A - men. A - men.

*Passing of the Peace

Armin Thies

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.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Please share Christ's peace with one another.

Congregation greets one another and shares the peace of Christ.

THE WORD

Prayer for illumination (unison)

Armin Thies

Spirit of God, as we come to your Word, silence the voices attracting our attention and open our God-listening hearts to hear what you would say to us this day. Amen.

First Lesson – Romans 6:1-11

Armin Thies

¹What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem:

Tantum Ergo; Op. 65, No. 2

Gabriel Fauré

*Tantum ergo Sacramentum
veneremur cernui;
Et antiquum Documentum
novo cedat ritui.
Genitori, genitoque
Laus et jubilatio.
Salus, honor, virtus quoque
Sit et benedictio:
procedenti ab utroque
compar sit laudatio.
Amen!*

Down in adoration falling
Lo! the sacred Host we hail;
Lo! o'er ancient forms departing,
Newer rites of grace prevail;
To the everlasting Father,
And the Son who reigns on high.
With the Holy Ghost proceeding
Forth from each eternally,
Be salvation, honor, blessing,
Might and endless majesty.
Amen!

FPCNC Women's Choir

Second Lesson – Matthew 10:24-39

The Rev. Scott Herr

²⁴A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! ²⁶So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³²Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ³⁴Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶and one's foes will be members of one's own household. ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Under Water

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith – Hymn No. 482:**

Baptized in Water

Bunessan



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the
 tomb with Christ our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

Prayers of the People

The Rev. Scott Herr

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. Scott Herr

Leader: We learn generosity from the One who is generous beyond all measure. In thanks, let us bring our gifts to God.

Offertory Anthem:

A Paean of Praise

Jack H. Ossewaarde

O praise ye the Lord! Praise Him in the height;
 Rejoice in his word, Ye angels of light;
 Ye heavens, adore Him By whom ye were made,
 And worship before Him, In brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Praise Him upon earth,
 In tuneful accord, Ye sons of new birth;
 Praise Him who hath brought you His grace from above,
 Praise Him who hath taught you To sing of His love.

O praise ye the Lord! All things that give sound;
 Each jubilant chord, Re-echo around;
 Loud organs, His glory Forth tell in deep tone,
 And sweet harp, the story Of what He hath done.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
 To Him outpoured All ages along:
 For love in creation, For heaven restored,
 For grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

(paraphrase on *Psalms 150*)

FPCNC Choir

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)

Armin Thies

We thank you, O God, for all the good things with which you fill our lives. Accept, we pray, the offerings we bring—our time and energy, our dollars and our pledges, our hopes and dreams—all are yours. Use them to proclaim your love, we pray in Christ’s name. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn No. 718:

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

Bourbon

1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
 3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
 4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and

you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
 your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
 let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -

will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
 spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

***Benediction**

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

***Choral Amen**

***Ringing of the Church Bell**

Postlude:

Final (from *1re Symphonie, Op. 14*)

Louis Vierne

CCLI #11412435 / ONE LICENSE, License A-734274

We encourage you to stay for the musical conclusion of our Worship together.

Join us in the Common Room after Worship for a time of fellowship and our Annual Ice Cream Social with Brownies. Happy Fathers' Day to all.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Welcome to Worship with the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan on this Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time. Today we are considering Paul's reflection on baptism in his letter to the Romans and what that means for following Christ, drawing from Jesus' words in Matthew. We're glad you are joining us, and pray you will experience the grace of God's welcome and be spiritually renewed and socially reoriented for the week ahead!

The Flowers in Church today are given in loving memory of Charles "Chuck" Cooper. The Cooper family wishes to thank the First Presbyterian Church for its comfort and assistance during this time of mourning. In particular we wish to thank Rev. Scott Herr, Senior Pastor; Rev. Mary Thies, Parish Associate; Terence J. Flanagan, Director of Music and Fine Arts; Lisa Flanagan, soloist; and Wendy Starr, Office Manager. Special thanks as well to Deacons Daniel Mason and Kathy Edwards, who volunteered to help with the service.

Sunday School – Summer Schedule. Sunday School will run on a normal schedule through the end of July. We will take a break from August 2 – September 6, and resume on Rally Day, September 13. Wishing you all a blessed and fun-filled summer ahead! Leah Saulsberry, Sunday School Director

Until August 2nd, join us as we explore Bible stories and all our questions about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the world around us. We will explore these themes through discussion, crafts, music, and other visual media. 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 and then return to the Sanctuary towards the end of Worship.

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 Leah Saulsberry at leahs@fpcnc.org.

TODAY IN WORSHIP (Cont'd)

Children are warmly welcome to stay in Worship! For children who stay during Worship, the **Pray-Ground** can be found in the area in front of the back pew bench. The Pray-Ground is a designated place in the Sanctuary where young children can experience worship through age-appropriate worship materials and tools that will help keep them engaged in what is happening. We will continue to rotate books and coloring materials on an ongoing basis. Although it can seem counter-intuitive to adults, children are often able to process what they hear more effectively when they have something to do with their hands.

Any child worshipping in the Pray-Ground should bring their grown-up with them to the Pray-Ground. Including young children in Worship can sometimes feel a little daunting, especially on days when they're feeling a little extra fidgety, but we don't need to be discouraged from keeping children in the Sanctuary. There are many important things that children learn while in Worship, even when we're not sure if they're paying attention.

Young children learn by observing the adults around them. Children acquire the "language" of worship by listening to and observing the words the adults around them say, much like how they learn their native tongue. Quite simply, children learn to worship by regularly being in Worship. **So families with little ones should feel free to worship together in the Pray-Ground!**

FPCNC also offers childcare during our Sunday Service provided by Saturnina Greaves 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.**

Have a prayer request? Prayer Cards are located in the back of the church adjacent to the Sanctuary entrance. Before worship, please give the completed Prayer Card to either Scott, Mary or one of 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 contact Mary (marythies75@gmail.com).

Cents-Ability – 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. *Recently a few large bags of change were donated – once counted, we'll let you know how much was collected for the NC Food Pantry.* Thank you for your continued support to the New Canaan Food Pantry.



ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

Today our organ music is composed by **Louis Victor Jules Vierne** (1870-1937), a French organist and composer. As a composer, much of his output was organ music, including six symphonies and four suites, and works for choir and organ, including a Messe Solennelle for choir and two organs. Louis was born nearly blind due to congenital cataracts. At age six, Louis underwent an iridectomy in both eyes. He was then able to distinguish shapes and people, and could read large letters. He also learned Braille. In 1880, Vierne studied the piano with Louis Specht, a blind teacher at the Institut National des Jeunes Aveugles (National Institute for the Young Blind). Vierne was accepted as a student of the institution in 1881. Franck recommended that he study the organ, and Vierne began lessons with Louis Lebel and Adolphe Marty. He studied harmony privately with Franck, and attended classes at the Paris Conservatoire, admitted as a full-time student in 1890. When Franck died on 8 November 1890, Charles-Marie Widor succeeded him. Vierne became his Assistant in the organ class and as Organist at Saint-Sulpice. He remained assistant to Widor in the organ class, and also to his successor Alexandre Guilmant from 1896. On 21 May 1900, Vierne won the competition for the position of Titular Organist at Notre-Dame de Paris. He held the post until his death in 1937. Vierne taught, as an assistant, at the Conservatoire for nineteen years. Vierne taught at the Schola Cantorum from 1912. After the death of Vincent d'Indy he left the Schola Cantorum for the César Franck School in 1931.

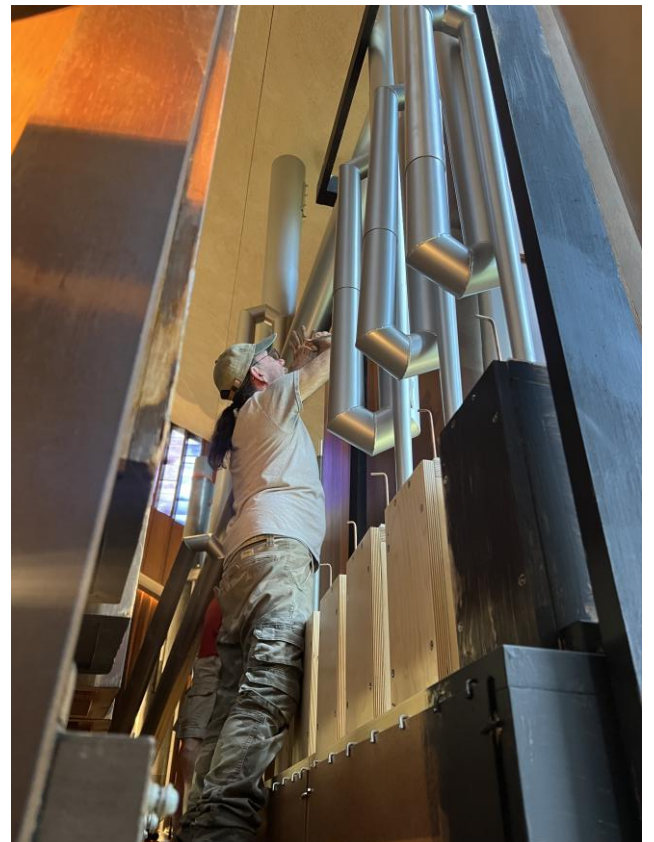
On this Father's Day, our women sing to the men, music composed by **Gabriel Urbain Fauré** (1845-1924), a French composer, organist, pianist and teacher. He was one of the foremost French composers of his generation, and his musical style influenced many 20th-century composers. Fauré's talent became clear when he was a young boy. At the age of nine, he was sent to the École Niedermeyer music college in Paris, where he was trained to be a church organist and choirmaster. Among his teachers was Camille Saint-Saëns, who became a lifelong friend. After graduating from the college in 1865, Fauré earned a modest living as an organist and teacher, leaving him little time for composition. When he became successful in his middle age, holding the important posts of Organist of the Église de la Madeleine and Director of the Paris Conservatoire, he still lacked time for composing; he retreated to the countryside in the summer holidays to concentrate on composition. By his last years, he was recognized in France as the leading French composer of his day.

Our Offertory Anthem is music composed by **Jack Ossewaarde** (1918-2004). Jack was the Organist of New York City's Calvary Episcopal Church from 1948 (following Harold Friedell when he went to St. Bartholomew's) until 1953, when he left for Houston to be Organist and Choirmaster of Christ Church Cathedral and Organist and Program Annotator of the Houston Symphony Orchestra under Leopold Stowkowski. When Friedell died in 1958, the Rev. Terence J. Finlay, Rector of St. Bartholomew's, called Ossewaarde to succeed Friedell again, and he stayed at St. Bartholomew's for 24 years until he retired in 1982. He lived in Stamford, CT, and was the Conductor of the Greenwich Choral Society for several years early in his New York tenure.

Calling all musicians! Next Sunday, June 28 begins our summer season of music making. If you play an instrument, dance, or sing and would like to offer your talents over the summer, please contact Terry. If you have any questions, reach out to Terry as well.

Can you spot what looks different in our Sanctuary...

On the morning of Tuesday, June 16, the first truckload of organ pipes and supplies arrived at FPCNC to be unloaded and brought into our Sanctuary. The area in the back where there Labyrinth now rests became a workspace for the week. The following morning, a second truck arrived carrying the remainder of 32' reed pipes. Piece by piece, reed boots, resonators, pipes, the new 32' reed air chest and braces for the pipes were carried and lifted up into and installed in our Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ. You will notice the physical presence of the new 32' reed pipes in the organ's façade. The presence of these mitered pipes in the organ façade is stunning in our mid-century modern Sanctuary and not a very common sight in organ building. The final voicing of these new pipes will take place this week!



TODAY

Knobloch Scholarship – Through the generosity of one of our distinguished members, Bill Knobloch, the First Presbyterian Church has selected 3 recipients to receive the Knobloch Scholarship of \$2,500 each for the 2026-2027 school year. Please join us in congratulating each of them.

Hanin Abo Nektah
Emily Johnson
Paiton Pascarella



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

Ice Cream Social

Sunday, June 21

11:30 am, during
Coffee Hour

Join us for Ice Cream,
Brownies, & Fellowship

All Are Welcome!

THIS WEEK

FPC Summer Office Hours – June 22 thru September 7

Mondays – Thursdays: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Fridays: 9:00am – 1:00pm



Our next **Men's Gathering** will be an in-person luncheon on **Wednesday, June 24th, from 11:45am-1:15pm in the Common Room**. We're excited to have Mark Chmiel as our featured guest. Mark and his wife are residents of Pound Ridge and regularly attend FPCNC. Mark is an economics professor at Mercy University's School of Business in Dobbs Ferry, New York. He enjoys serving as an usher and is a member of the Mission and Outreach Committee. We're looking forward to Mark leading a discussion on “the

exponential impact of prayer”. Come and enjoy a delicious lunch, fellowship and great conversation.

All men are welcome, and feel free to invite a friend or two. ***Please RSVP to wendy@fpcnc.org or by calling the office so we can have an accurate count for lunch.*** We look forward to seeing you in-person at 11:45am on June 24th.

Men's Gathering Zoom meetings will take a break during July and August and will start up again in September.

THIS WEEK (Cont'd)

We Love A Parade!

We'll be represented in the 250th Anniversary Parade with our very own 16-foot float! It will depict the key role played by Presbyterians in our country's founding. One of our signs will quote King George III, who called the American Revolution the "Presbyterian Rebellion!"

FPC will be the only church in New Canaan with a float, but the parade will feature marching bands, fire engines, antique cars, and marchers of all ages--all the colorful displays we missed when the Memorial Day parade was cancelled due to rain.

If interested in joining the march, contact Wendy in the church office or Tom Butterworth if you're interested. Rain date is Sunday, June 28th at 1:00pm. See you at the parade whether you walk with us or cheer from the parade route!



March With Our Float! in the 250th Anniversary Parade

Meet us on June 27th at 9:00 in the Lumberyard
Parking Lot.

We have special T-shirts for the first 20 to arrive.

All are welcome – march with us!!!



178 Oenoke Ridge New Canaan, CT
For questions call 203-966-0002 ext 1 – wendy@fpcnc.org

NEXT SUNDAY



Adult Forum on Sunday, June 28 at 11:30am Keith Simpson will discuss “Canaan Parish in June of 1776”

As a patriotic Proprietor of Norwalk, living in Canaan Parish in June 1776, with an illustrated talk, Keith Simpson will take you back to what conditions were like in the Parish then, with information on how many people were here, how and where they were living, as well as what their concerns were at that time. The effects of the new laws coming from Hartford, England and Philadelphia will be discussed as well as the recent and on-going military events in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York which were leading up to the eve of the Declaration of Independence.

GRADUATES



Congratulations to the graduates of all ages this year! We pray for our graduates as they begin a new stage of their lives, that God may surround them with love and give them the gifts they need to serve God and love their neighbors.

2026 GRADUATES

Hanin Abo Noktah – graduated from Sacred Heart University (will be attending New York University this fall to pursue a Master of Public Health in Global Health while continuing on the pre-med track with plans to attend medical school in the future)

Paiton Pascarella – graduated from New Canaan High School (will be attending University of Georgia this fall and will be studying Exercise Science)

Charlie Sulkowski – graduated from Brunswick School, Greenwich, CT (will be attending Yale this fall and will be studying Biomedical Engineering)

THIS MONTH

June is Pride Month! Our Progressive Pride flag is back outside the Sanctuary entrance for the month of June!

Over the years, the Pride flag has evolved to promote greater inclusion and recognize the many communities that celebrate Pride.

You may be familiar with the rainbow-striped Pride flag. In recent years, this flag has been updated and expanded to represent the diversity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and Two-Spirit (LGBTQIA2-S) communities and the intersectionality with queer communities of color, who have at times been underrepresented – or outright ignored – within broader LGBTQIA2-S movements.



In 2018, Daniel Quasar, an artist based in Portland, OR, designed the Progress Pride Flag. This flag incorporated the black and brown stripes of the earlier version of the rainbow flag in addition to pink, white, and blue stripes in reference to the Trans Pride Flag. The Progress Pride Flag has been celebrated by many in the LGBTQIA2-S community for its inclusivity.



In 2021, Valentino Vecchietti designed an intersex-inclusive Pride flag, which includes a purple circle over a yellow triangle as a reference to the Intersex pride flag that was created in 2013 by Morgan Carpenter. Purple and yellow are used as intentional contrasts to blue and pink, which are typically thought of as gendered colors.

FPCNC is a member congregation of Presbyterian Promise which advocates for full welcome and inclusion of the LGBTQ community in the church and in our larger society. They will have tables at different Pride events in Connecticut. If you would like to help out, Presbyterian Promise is tabling at 6 events this year, and would love to have you join them! Reach out to the Presbyterian Promise at presbyterianpromise.org or visit their website at: <https://presbyterianpromise.org/> if you'd like to help at their table or learn more.

They will be at:

West Hartford Pride – Sat, June 27th, 12 – 5pm

EDITOR'S NOTES

Crayon Initiative Collection

Thanks to the generosity of our families and a donation from South School, we collected over a thousand crayons (approximately 47lbs) for The Crayon Initiative! The kids jumped in with real enthusiasm, learning that even a small, broken crayon can be given new purpose to help another child. These donations will be recycled into new, easy-to-grip crayons for children's hospitals, supporting art therapy and bringing comfort to kids during their stays. Thank you to everyone who contributed!



Starting today, Sunday, June 21, our Labyrinth will be back in the Sanctuary for the summer. The Labyrinth is designed to lead one into private meditation and prayer via following the intricate path that takes us to the center. It's not a maze, but a purposeful passage that may be entered into with gentle song, prayer, or quiet meditation. Walking the Labyrinth can be a meaningful and powerful practice for personal introspection and transformation. Instructions are posted or you can reach out to Scott or the Church office for guidelines. *To help preserve the Labyrinth, we ask that you remove your street shoes, so please wear socks or bring your slippers from home.*

Heartfelt thanks from the Worship, Music and Fine Arts Committee

Our sincere thanks to everyone who has stepped up over the past months to assist during Sunday morning Worship Services. We have a wonderful group of church members and friends who consistently sign up to usher, read, greet, prepare and serve communion, carry the cross as well as helping with special Church Services throughout the year. Thanks to your commitment to our church and the generous sharing of your time and talents, our Sunday morning Worship Services are enhanced by your presence and greatly appreciated by our church staff. It has been wonderful to have some new people step up to join the **"Worship Team"** and we thank you for joining us. It's a great way to get to know some new church friends.



The summer is a busy time for everyone with travel to visit family and friends and children home from school. But our Sunday morning Services continue and we need your help. Please take a few minutes to go to our website (www.fpcnc.org), click on "SUNDAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEER!" and on the bottom of the home page find a date(s) that works best for you. If you are not sure of your availability, check back often as we move through the summer. Your continued participation in serving on Sunday mornings is greatly appreciated. Please feel free to reach out to Jan Lucie, Armin Thies or Linda Martin with any questions or contact Wendy in the church office for help signing up. Our very best wishes to all for a safe and enjoyable summer. Enjoy the lovely weather and we look forward to seeing you on Sunday mornings!!

The Worship, Music and Fine Arts Committee

EDITOR'S NOTES (Cont'd)



Lost and Found – a black water bottle with *ZOJIRUSHI CORPORATION* logo and black glasses.

If either of these items are yours, please reach out to Wendy in the church office at wendy@fpcnc.org or 203-966-0002 ext 1.

LOOKING AHEAD

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

4th Annual
**Peaches
on the
Patio**

Sunday, July 19
11:30 am, during
Coffee Hour

The graphic features a light orange background with a white cross logo in the top left. It is decorated with illustrations of orange peaches and leaves in the top right and bottom left corners.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

**Rally Day
Picnic &
Celebration!**

Sunday, September 13, 11:30 am

—

Please join us for 10 am Worship.
Then after service join us for fun,
food, live music, lawn games, and
Ol' Faithful rides.

All Ages Are Welcome!

The graphic has a white background with a red and white checkered border at the top and bottom. It features the church logo in the top left and the event details in a red serif font.

COMMUNITY



UNITED IN HARMONY

*Celebrating Freedom of Religion
and Diversity in America*

Presented by Interfaith Council of New Canaan

THURSDAY, JUNE 25TH, 2026

AT 7:00 PM

St. Aloysius Church
21 Cherry Street,
New Canaan



A joyful celebration bringing together **New Canaan's faith communities** to celebrate **America's 250th** anniversary—honoring **religious freedom, unity, and diversity** through music, readings, and reflection.

Featuring musicians, community leaders, and clergy from across New Canaan.

Apple Pie and Ice Cream Social to Follow!



FEELING SANDWICHED?

Caring for your children while supporting aging parents can be stressful and exhausting.

Support is available – and you deserve it!

Family Centers is offering a free, confidential support group for adults navigating the challenges of caring for multiple generations.

Scan to register



Tuesdays, June 9–July 28

10:00–11:30 AM

New Canaan Library



More in-person and virtual groups forming.
Call for information: 203-443-8132



Waveny Lifecare Network's

NAVIGATOR

Alzheimer's and Dementia at Home for New Canaan

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

All Communications Confidential

- 24/7 access to dedicated Alzheimer's and dementia specialists
- Complimentary grant-based program
- Exclusive respite apartment
- Exclusive social model adult day programming
- Expedited access to Waveny's continuum
- Access to trusted resources outside of Waveny
- Wellness checks and safety assessments
- Education on disease progression and healthcare resources available
- Assistance with insurance and public benefits
- Coordination of care, advance care planning, discharge planning
- Emotional support
- Alzheimer's and dementia caregiver support group
- Dedicated mobile app

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

In collaboration with



NEW CANAAN
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



**SAVE THE NUMBER
SAVE A LIFE
CALL OR TEXT 988**



Add this number to your phone now.
It could save a life later.

NIMH nimh.nih.gov/suicideprevention

Save the number, save a life. Add the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (988) to your phone now—it could save a life later. Trained crisis counselors are available to talk 24/7/365.

NEW CANAAN
Behavioral Health
ALLIANCE

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.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Please keep the following people in your hearts.


Continued prayers and concerns: Judy Bentley; Mary Dillon (Barbara Wentzel's sister) who had a stroke; Betty Drew (Sue Dishart's mother); the family of George Drew (Sue Dishart's brother) who passed away June 4 from a heart attack at 68; Kristen Englund recovering from transplant surgery; John Florio (Nik Brannan's Grandfather, Mary Jane Brannan's father); Chris Harris (Dede Trefts' lifelong and beloved friend) is in the last stage of a very long battle with cancer; Dan Hodges; Sue Hoffman (Peg and Sherm Bull's friend) diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer; David Johnson (Elsbeth Johnson's son); Lou who has Pneumonia (Barbara Wentzel's friend); Denise Lynch; Josephine Markell (Jim Riehl's 106-year-old aunt); Missy (Sarah Robinson's sister-in-law) and her two daughters, Lexi and Maggie. Missy has been diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer; Marlene Powers; John Robinson (Darlene Harmon's brother) who has lung cancer; Mindy Starr-Pfahler (Wendy Starr's cousin); Ken Stringfellow (Kate Stringfellow-Ziance's brother); J. Stuart Stringfellow (Kate Stringfellow-Ziance's father).

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, hurricanes and earthquakes and during war. PDA Giving: <https://pcusa.org/giving/stewardship-funds-development/ways-give>

PSNE Community Prayer: For the following PSNE Clergy: Craig Peel, Greg Penza, Susan Pfeil, David Pierce, Frederick Porter, Joan Withers Priest, Jovelino Ramos, Glenn Ramsey, Richard Reifsnnyder, Paolo Ribeiro, Frank Robertson and Jill Robertson.

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 might appreciate a phone call or visit, someone who is lonely or mourning? Our congregation has a team of people who are ready to reach out to church members of all ages 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 Ferial Aldag, Peg Bull, Debera Prosek, Ellen Sisson, Barbara Wentzel 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

CALENDAR – UPCOMING WEEK

SUNDAY, June 21 (*Fathers' Day*)

9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Worship Service
11:30 am Coffee Hour & Ice Cream Social

MONDAY, June 22

2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons

TUESDAY, June 23

10:30 am Staff Leadership Weekly Meeting
4:30 pm Holy Cow! Focus Group
8 pm Men's A.A. Group (closed)

WEDNESDAY, June 24

11:45 am Men's Gathering In-Person Lunch & Speaker
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons
6 pm Choir End of Year Gathering

THURSDAY, June 25

11 am Emily "Sandy" Nissley McKay Memorial Service & Reception
7 pm United in Harmony (St. Aloysius Church)

FRIDAY, June 26

2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons

SATURDAY, June 27

9:15 am A.A. Group (closed)
9:30 am NC America250 Parade (Lumberyard start)
10:30 am A.A. Group (open)
2-5 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons

SUNDAY, June 28

9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Worship Service
11:15 am Coffee Hour
**11:30 am Adult Forum – Keith Simpson
"Canaan Parish in June 1776"**

CALENDAR – JULY thru SEPTEMBER

Sunday, July 19, 11:30am Annual Peaches on the Patio
Saturday, September 5, 2-6pm New Covenant House (Prepare and Serve Meals)
Sunday, September 13, 11:30am RALLY DAY

THOSE PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

The First Presbyterian Church Choir with:

Lisa Flanagan, Meg Bowles – soprano, Jaime Ratcliffe, Maria Damianou – alto,
Nikolas Brannan, Joseph DeVaughn – tenor, Devin Mitchell, Richard Price – bass

Lay Reader: Armin Thies

Ushers: Tom Emmons and Andrew Mezo

Cross Bearer: Armin Thies

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 • Jim Riehl, Business Administrator
Leah Saulsberry, Sunday School Director • Wendy Starr, Office Manager
Emily Johnson, Communications Assistant • Kate and Matt Ziance, Operations Managers
Terence D. Flanagan, Sunday Audio Technician

2026-2027 SESSION ELDERS AND DEACONS

SESSION ELDERS

Bob Spangler (Clerk) • Barb Achenbaum • Tom Butterworth • Jim Ely • Terence D. Flanagan (Youth)
Angela Johnson • Nancy LaBadie • Janet Lanaway • Jan Lucie • Mark Magnusen • Bonnie Peterson
Mike Peterson • Steve Van de Graaf • Patty von Jena • Stephan von Jena

DEACONS

Ferial Aldag • Sue Benko • Carole Clarkson • Chris Cluett • Sue Dishart • Kathy Edwards • Lisa Flanagan
Julie Fowler • Thomas Godina (Youth) • Victoria Mezo • Jo Ann Nerenburg • Debera Prosek • Sherry Tate

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

<p>Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:</p>  	<p>DONATE:</p> 	<p>FPC YouTube Channel:</p> 
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