



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect

Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time • July 26, 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:

Johann Pachelbel

Erbarm dich mein, O Herre Gott (Have mercy on me, Lord my God)
Vom Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her (From heaven above, to earth I come)

James Turner, organist

*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 (from Psalm 119)**

Barb Achenbaum

Leader: The decrees of the Lord are wonderful,
All: The unfolding of God's word gives light and understanding.
Leader: Turn to us, O God,
All: and be gracious to us.
Leader: Make your face shine upon your servants.
All: We come together to worship the living God.

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



1 All hail to God's a - noint-ed, great Da - vid's great-er Son!
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 All rul - ers bow be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring.

All hail, in time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y and bid the weak be strong;
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
 All na - tions shall a - dore you; your praise all peo - ple sing.

You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark-ness turn to light,
 Be - fore you on the moun-tains shall peace, the her - ald, go,
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend.

to take a - way trans - gres - sion and rule in eq - ui - ty.
 whose souls, con-demned and dy - ing, are pre-cious in your sight.
 and righ-teous-ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
 Your rule is still in - creas - ing; your rule is with-out end.

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

Barb Achenbaum

Leader: If we say we have no sin, the truth is not in us and we are self-deceived. We admit that we need to begin again for we have fallen short of the glory of God. So we come humbly, but also confident in God's grace and mercy. Let us confess our sins, first with our unison confession, then personally in silence:

Confession of Sin (unison)

Barb Achenbaum

God of grace, we want to understand what the kingdom of heaven is like, but our minds are clouded by cares and concerns of the world. We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things. We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes in mysterious ways. We fail to be whole-hearted in our faith and discipleship. We fail to put our trust in the treasures of your kingdom instead of the treasures of the world. Gracious God, hidden and manifest, give us eyes to see and ears to hear your good news for the world even here and now. Transform our lives and our world by your grace.

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

Leader: In Jesus' name we pray.

All: **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Barb Achenbaum

Leader: Friends, listen to this good news; the empires of this world will rise and fall, but the mercy of the Lord will never end. Hear and believe the good news:

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made righteous. Thanks be to God!**

Gloria Patri

Gloria Patri

Terence J. Flanagan



*Passing of the Peace

Barb Achenbaum

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)

Barb Achenbaum

Inspire us by your Holy Spirit that the words we read on the page might become your Living Word in our hearts and lives. Then help us to receive and relay to others the grace, love and peace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Lesson – 1 Kings 3:5-12

Barb Achenbaum

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' ⁶And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?' ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson – Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The Rev. Scott Herr

³¹He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.' ³³He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

⁴⁴'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' ⁵²And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Treasures New and Old

The Rev. Scott Herr

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith – Hymn No. 450:** Be Thou My Vision

Slane



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,
wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav - en - ward, O Power of my power.
High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

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: Out of gratitude for all that God has provided for us and with hope that as we invest ourselves and the gifts we have received, we will see the kingdom of heaven grow and flourish in this world, we bring our tithes and offerings for God's work among us in this time and place.

Offertory:

Melodie en sol majeur (Op. 46, No. 4)

Alexandre Guilmant

***Doxology (No. 606)**

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)**

Barb Achenbaum

We give you thanks, O God, for the many blessings you have bestowed upon us. As from even the smallest of seeds, your kingdom grows, bless our tithes, gifts and offerings, and bless us that we might be ever more faithful in your work of reconciliation, love and joy. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

***Hymn No. 310:**

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

St. Thomas

1 I love thy king - dom, Lord, the house of thine a - bode,
2 I love thy church, O God. Her walls be - fore thee stand,
3 For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers as - cend;
4 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize her heaven - ly ways:
5 Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zi - on shall be given

the church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.
dear as the ap - ple of thine eye, and grav - en on thy hand.
to her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.
her sweet com - mu - nion, sol - emn vows, her hymns of love and praise.
the bright - est glo - ries earth can yield, and bright - er bliss of heaven.

***Benediction**

The Rev. Scott Herr

***Ringing of the Church Bell**

Postlude:

I Will Magnify The Lord

Mark L. Williams

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, coffee/tea and treats.***

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Welcome to Worship with the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan on this 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time, the season in the church calendar when we practice ordering our lives more around the teaching of Jesus. Today we wrestle with what is divine or godly wisdom and understanding. After telling various parables, Jesus asks his disciples, “Have you understood all this?” and then suggests that a scribe of the kingdom will bring our treasures that are both new and old. Before Solomon asks for understanding, he remembers what God has done. In all of this we are reminded that wisdom and understanding both relies on traditional categories of truth and values, but also discerns the new thing God is doing and how to apply the wisdom of the ages in new contexts. We’re glad you’re joining us for Worship and pray you’ll experience the grace of God’s welcome and be spiritually refreshed and socially reoriented for the week ahead.

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.

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.

TODAY IN WORSHIP (Cont'd)

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 Scott (scott@fpcnc.org) or Wendy (wendy@fpcnc.org).

Cents-ability – The Cents-ability jar has a temporary location at the Welcome Table during construction. 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 continued support.



ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

Today we welcome guest organist James Turner, who will be leading Worship at the pipe organ as Terry enjoys some vacation time. James originates from near Birmingham, England, where he sang and first studied organ in a local church. He held various positions as organist, chorus accompanist, and choir director until his job took him, and his wife Claire, to South Africa in 1996, and then to the United States in 1999. He now lives in Somers, New York. Most recently, James was the music director and organist at St. Stephen's Episcopal church in Armonk, NY, – a position he held for 21 years but retired from in 2023 when the second of his two children went to college. James is a recreational musician – his “day job” is as Director of Accounting with United Rentals in Stamford, Connecticut.

James will play music by **Johann Pachelbel** (1653-1706) for the prelude. Pachelbel was a German composer, organist, and teacher who brought the south German organ schools to their peak. He composed a large body of sacred and secular music, and his contributions to the development of the chorale prelude and fugue have earned him a place among the most important composers of the middle Baroque era. Pachelbel's music enjoyed enormous popularity during his lifetime; he had many pupils and his music became a model for the composers of south and central Germany. He was influenced by southern German composers, such as Johann Jakob Froberger and Johann Caspar Kerll, Italians such as Girolamo Frescobaldi and Alessandro Poglietti, French composers, and the composers of the Nuremberg tradition.

For our offertory, James will play music by **Félix-Alexandre Guilmant** (1837-1911), a French organist and composer. He was Organist of La Trinité from 1871 until 1901. A noted pedagogue, performer, and improviser, Guilmant founded the Schola Cantorum with Charles Bordes and Vincent d'Indy in 1894. He taught there up until his death at his home in Meudon, near Paris, in 1911. In addition, he was appointed as Professor of Organ in the Conservatoire de Paris in 1896 where he succeeded Charles-Marie Widor. Guilmant was known for his improvisations, both in the concert and church setting. His inspiration came from Gregorian chants, and he was greatly noted amongst his colleagues for his mastery of the melodies. Marcel Dupré was the most celebrated of his many students.

For our postlude, we hear music by American organist and church musician **Mark L. Williams** (b. 1958). He was educated at Westminster Choir College. His teachers included George Markey, Eugene Roan, Robert Carwithen, and Warren Martin. Williams served various churches in New Jersey. His compositions have been published by the Lorenz Corporation, the FJH Music Company, Hinshaw Music, and Paraclete Press. Today's postlude was published in 1984.

THIS WEEK @ FPC

FPC Summer Office Hours thru September 7

Monday, July 27 – Thursday, July 30: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Friday, July 31: 9:00am – 1:00pm

*Scott will be out of the office from Monday, July 27 – Friday, July 31. If you have any Pastoral Care needs during this time, please reach out to Wendy in the Church office or text Scott on his cell at 203-921-7536.

DRIVEWAY AND PARKING LOT MAINTENANCE – JULY 27 THROUGH AUGUST 7

Please be advised that FPCNC will be performing some greatly needed driveway and parking lot maintenance starting Monday, July 27 and running through Friday, August 7. Limited parking will be available at the church throughout this project. Please avoid driving on areas cordoned off with yellow caution tape until the caution tape is removed. The work has been planned so as not to disturb Worship Services on July 26, August 2, and August 9. Questions or concerns contact Jim Riehl at 203-940-1305 or jriehl@fpcnc.org. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

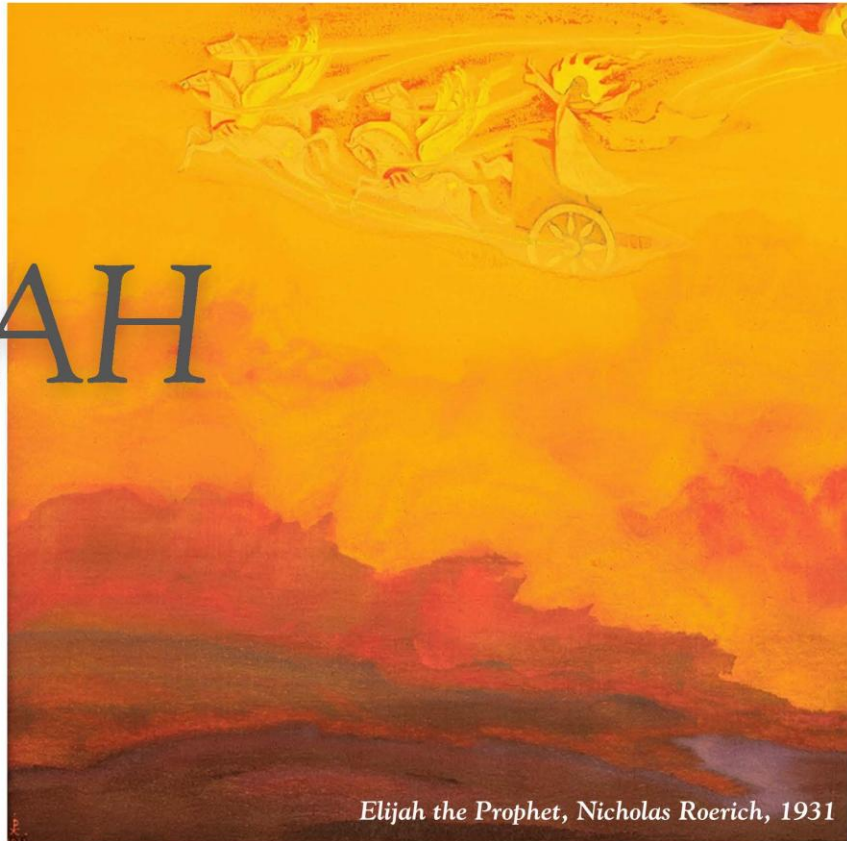
MUSIC ON THE HILL

presents

Felix
Mendelssohn

ELIJAH

The Summer
Chorus
with two-piano
orchestration



Elijah the Prophet, Nicholas Roerich, 1931

Thursday, July 30, 7:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

178 Oenoke Ridge Road, New Canaan

Tickets:

\$25 in advance/\$30 at the door

Children/students free

musiconthehillCT.org

FPC UNSUNG HEROES

A BIG THANK YOU to all that helped with last Sunday's Peaches on the Patio: Nancy LaBadie (Congregational Life – Co-Chair) for setup/cleanup, decorating, and slicing peaches; with additional help from Maxine Gaddis (slicing peaches), Steve and Jen Van de Graaf (cleanup), Linda Martin and Barb Shaw (Coffee Hour setup/Cleanup), along with Ruth and John Laird (helping with coffee) and anyone else we might have missed that lended a hand.

Mary Lee and Jim Lesko provide the Communion elements the first Sunday of each month. This entails procuring gluten-free bread so all can be served. They cut the bread into cubes and make sure we have grape juice on hand. Mary Lee even washes and irons the beautiful new Communion cloth for our table! How blessed we are!

NOTE FROM SCOTT

The FPCNC Liturgist Team wants you...

As much as we will miss the Rev. Mary Marple Thies leading in Worship, her stepping *down* creates an opportunity for new leadership to step *up*. I would like for you, the members of the congregation, to prayerfully consider becoming a member of the FPCNC Liturgist team! Liturgists are people who assist in Worship leadership. I'll offer support and training as needed over the next couple months to prepare any who are willing to take some of the parts that Mary has so wonderfully led "up front" during Sunday Worship.

Liturgist /'lidərjəst/

A Liturgist is someone who plans, organizes, and leads the public Worship Services of a religious community. The term originates from the Greek *leitourgia*, meaning "the work of the people".

Please pray about this. Yes. *You*. Pray and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you and let your yes be yes, and your no be no. I will respect hearing a lot of no's. But I also know that many of you have gifts and would love for you to exercise your gifts for ministry. It may be surprising that God is calling you and will give you what you need to help lead the congregation up front in Worship. Please reach out to Wendy, Jan or me and we will equip you to be a member of the FPCNC Liturgist Team.

EDITOR'S NOTES

The Human Resources Committee of FPCNC is delighted to announce that Debera Prosek has been hired as of July 21st as the Director of the Pastoral Care Team. We are thankful for the Rev. Mary Marple Thies' leadership for the past six years, and that she will remain as a member of the PCT. With Mary's recent retirement, Debera will now step in as the Director and work with Mary on PCT and alongside FPC Staff. Debera has experience on the PCT, as well as a professional background that qualifies her uniquely for this position. Debera is a Certified Healing Touch Practitioner: providing nurturing energy therapy sessions to help rebalance a client's energy field and to promote energy flow. She is also a Certified Holistic Health Coach: skilled in connecting with clients to build trust and inspire self-care. She is a wellness educator and speaker to encourage the development of a daily health regimen that will nourish the body, mind and spirit. Please welcome Debera and her gifts for ministry in her new role. We are thankful for the Pastoral Care Team ministry of our church, and thankful to see Debera's leadership continue and flourish.

FPC Accessibility Project: Please note that the accessibility project construction has begun and effective immediately exclusive use of the back driveway (by the Memorial Garden and Columbarium) via the NC Nature Center driveway has been promised to Turner Construction until further notice. Please avoid use of the rear driveway for parking or building access. To access the Memorial Garden or Columbarium, please park in the large parking lot by the front of the church and walk around to the back by way of the sidewalk to the left of the Sanctuary doors.

EDITOR'S NOTES (Cont'd)



Our Labyrinth is 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.*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NURSERY SCHOOL (FPNS)



First Presbyterian Nursery School

178 Oenoke Ridge Road, New Canaan, CT 06840 (203)966-5234

First Presbyterian Nursery School (FPNS) offers a play-based program that follows the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards. Through hands-on exploration, experimentation, and small-group learning, children develop essential cognitive, social-emotional, and physical skills in a nurturing environment.

Our curriculum includes language and literacy, creative arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, providing a strong foundation for kindergarten readiness. Our Pre-K and Fours classes use the Wilson Foundations Handwriting program, consistent with the curriculum used by New Canaan Public Schools. With low student-to-teacher ratios, we can support each child's learning and development. Children enjoy a daily music class, a weekly Science class, and trips to the New Canaan Nature Center. Charm and a classic nursery school experience meet today's curriculum standards, where children play, laugh, learn, and grow with loving, experienced teachers.

Members of First Presbyterian Church receive priority consideration for enrollment for the 2027–2028 school year. To be eligible for priority consideration, applications must be submitted by September 1, 2026. Please note that priority enrollment does not guarantee admission.

For more information, visit www.fpns.net and/or contact the Director, Stacey Walker, at swalker@fpns.net.



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**

988
SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE

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

 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.



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.

New prayers and concerns: for the family of Joe Achenbaum who died Thursday, July 23 (Joe is Whitney Gulden's father-in-law and cousin of Barbara Achenbaum's husband Jon); Nick Guthrie; Kathy Edwards, recovering from shoulder surgery on July 21; Bob LaBadie; Becky Roth; and Stacey.

Continued prayers and concerns: Ferial Aldag, recovering from knee replacement surgery; Judy Bentley; Cody (friend of Mary Ann Meils' son); 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); Denise Lynch; Josephine Markell (Jim Riehl's 106-year-old aunt); Mary Ann Meils, recovering from surgery; for the family of Missy (Sarah Robinson's sister-in-law) who died June 27; Michael Nerenburg (Jo Ann Nerenburg's son) is having surgery on July 27; Marlene Powers; John Robinson (Darlene Harmon's brother) who has lung cancer; Ellen Sisson, who's recovering from hip replacement surgery; 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>

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, July 26

9 am **Music Rehearsals**
10 am **Worship Service**
11:30 am **Coffee Hour**

MONDAY, July 27

4 pm Jumpin' Jams (Lawn)
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons

TUESDAY, July 28

9:30, 10:30, 11:30 Jumpin' Jams (Lawn)
6 pm “Music on the Hill” Rehearsal
8 pm Men's A.A. Group (closed)

WEDNESDAY, July 29

2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons

THURSDAY, July 30

7:30 pm “Music on the Hill” Concert @ FPC

FRIDAY, July 31

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30 & 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Lawn)

SATURDAY, August 1

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

SUNDAY, August 2

9 am **Music Rehearsals**
10 am **Worship Service**
11:30 am **Coffee Hour**

CALENDAR – SEPTEMBER thru OCTOBER

Saturday, September 5, 2-6pm

New Covenant House (Prepare and Serve Meals)

Sunday, September 13, 11:30am

RALLY DAY PICNIC & CELEBRATION

Thursday, September 24, 3pm

NC Chamber Music Concert @ FPC (Sanctuary)

Friday, September 25, 7pm

NC Chamber Music Concert @ FPC (Sanctuary)

Sunday, September 27, 3pm

Lumos Concert @ FPC (Sanctuary)

Sunday, October 4, 3pm

Organ Dedication Recital (Sanctuary)

THOSE PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Greeter: Jan Lucie

Lay Reader: Barb Achenbaum

Usher: Jennifer Van de Graaf

MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

OUR PASTOR

The Reverend Dr. R. Scott Herr, Senior Pastor

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

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