

FPC – Session Meeting Highlights – February 21, 2023

- Liz Burns gave the Clerk's Report and presented the Statistical Report for 2022.
- Jan Falkowski presented the Treasurer's Report for January 2023. Donations for the month were up compared to January of 2021. We also received donations from participants in the S.A.L.T. program.
- Karen Murray gave a summary of the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Long Island, which she attended on January 28.
- Jan expressed gratitude to the team of volunteers who are helping to fulfill the role of church sexton, since we don't have a paid sexton on staff. The group, includes Dave Collins, Doug MacArthur, Paul & Kathy Geiger, Mike Mraz and Jim Baker, share the chores around the church.
- Peter Kelley continued his leadership development on Emotional Processes with a discussion about Triangles within groups and families.
- Bonnie Zellner reported for the Deacons, who have hosted several funeral receptions in recent weeks. They are planning a donation to help with earthquake relief in Turkey. And the WinterFest was a big hit – everyone loved John Ross's stuffed baked potatoes.
- Karen Murray reported for the Hospitality and Fellowship Committee. There was a successful Annual Meeting and lunch on February 5th. Several volunteers helped prepare and serve refreshments for WinterFest, including John Ross, Muffie Baker, Joan Mathie, Heather Lee, Bonnie Zellner, Kathy Chagnon, David Kilbride, Jennifer Collins and many others. Chrissy and Walter Berry volunteered to lead a team for Sunday Fellowship. FPC will be hosting a Lenten worship service for Greenport Ecumenical Ministries on March 15. Volunteers are needed to prepare a soup & salad lunch, and to help serve and clean up.
- Colleen Clark reported for the Mission Committee that there would be a build date for Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, February 25th from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Volunteers are welcome and needed. Contact CJ at cj@habitatliny.org to volunteer for future dates – you don't need to go as part of a group.
- Ralph Edwards presented a motion to give the Pastor and Chair of the Finance & Stewardship Committee access to donor information that is currently only available to the Treasurer. He explained that this information could help the committee better understand our givers, and tailor the fundraising efforts and messages more effectively. It could also allow them to ask givers why they give, and find out what is important to members of the congregation. These efforts have taken on more urgency after a

disappointing pledge drive for 2023. Somewhere between 18 and 26 household who had returned Estimates of Giving cards in the past did not do so for 2023. This will lead to a shortfall in revenues of \$24,000 to \$42,000. The motion passed unanimously.

- Upcoming important dates for Faith Formation include a Mission Trip to Deep Roots at Clairvaux Farm from July 31 to August 5, and Vacation Bible School from August 14 to 18.
- Patty Shuford reported for the Worship Committee. Jennifer Kennedy is willing to help fill in with music for worship but is not looking for a full-time position. The Personnel Committee is interviewing a potential Music Director. The QR code for donating to FPC is now available on our livestream. There will be an Ash Wednesday service on February 22 at 7 pm.
- Karen Murray led the closing prayer.