

FPC – Session Meeting Highlights – May 16, 2023

- Liz Burns led the opening devotion and prayer. She also gave the Clerk's Report. There was a request for a baptism from Tessa Georgoulakus for her daughter Rosalie, who began coming to FPC for Faithful Friends. They now attend worship regularly. The request was approved by the Session.
- Jan Falkowski presented the Treasurer's Report. Giving is down about \$8,000 for the year to date, but expenses are also down about the same amount. The Session reviewed a listing of the Church's different accounts and the expenditures that each one is designated for.
- Peter Kelley noted that Mark Tammen, the General Presbyter for Long Island, will be retiring in June. The Presbytery is having meetings to ask member churches what the priorities should be going forward. John Touhey agreed to be FPC's commissioner for the Presbytery meeting on June 17 in Babylon. Peter continued his leadership development on Family Systems Theory with a discussion about Self Differentiation.
- Muffie Baker reported for the Deacons. They are helping with the Pentecost Party on May 28. Faith Finne has been providing baskets for new Sober House residents, and lining up ushers and communion servers, even though she is no longer a Deacon. Fred Lee will be calling homebound church members, and reaching out to those who haven't attended worship in a while.
- Dave Collins reported for Buildings & Grounds. The Session approved the bid from Montoya Flooring to repair and replace the flooring in the Old Manse. Dave notes that the windows in the Manse need to be repaired or replaced. He also replaced the washing machine. The parking lot and gravel road are being regraded and potholes are being repaired. The playground shed will be replaced with a playhouse and an adult-sized picnic table. The plaque for Emily Rose LaFreniere will be moved to the new structure.
- Mark Bridgen reported that the Cemetery Committee hosted a presentation on Slavery on the North Fork in April, which was very well attended. The Session approved the revised rules and regulations for the Cemetery. The obelisk was repaired, and it cost less than estimated. There have been new plants and trees put in, as well as ornamental grasses in the Memorial Garden. Mark has been doing data entry for the website. Jane Andrews will be moving, and stepping down after 10 years as Cemetery Committee Director. Mark read her resignation letter to the Session, which they accepted with regret. David Kilbride will be the new Director, and Margot Bridgen will be the Associate Director.

- Sue Russell reported that 12 people attended the Faith Formation team meeting on April 23.
 - Due to popular demand, we will have Summer S.A.L.T. on Thursdays in July, with a maximum of 20 attendees.
 - Faithful Friends is on vacation through the summer.
 - There will be a Summer Bible Study with Sunset Devotions on Sunday nights, and Lunchtime Devotions on Fridays. Leaders are needed to get the conversation started. Please contact the Church office to volunteer.
 - Vacation Bible School will run from August 14 to 18. **Volunteers are needed.** Please contact Mary Mraz if you can help.

- The Hospitality and Fellowship Committee is purchasing a tent for outdoor events such as the Pentecost Party.

- The Nominating Committee is still looking for an Elder candidate.

- John Touhey reported that the Personnel Committee will be meeting soon.

- Ralph Edwards reported that the Finance & Stewardship Committee is looking for new longer-term sources of revenue, such as a cell tower. They are working on lowering the cost of the church's insurance policies. And they are making plans to reach out to members to address the pledging shortfall.

- Dave Collins led the closing prayer.