

FPC – Session Meeting Highlights – July 18, 2023

- John Touhey led the opening devotion and prayer.
- Liz Burns gave the Clerk’s Report. There were three baptisms on Sunday, July 16 – Tessa Georgoulakos, her daughter Rosalie, and Aela Bohn.
- Jan Falkowski gave the Treasurer’s Report, and noted that giving was down by \$3,000 in June of 2023 relative to June of 2022. The remaining \$5,000 from the Steeple fund was approved by the donor to be used for Stepping Stones, the new initiative to offer transitional housing in the Old Manse.
- The next meeting of the Presbytery of Long Island will be on September 30 in Selden. A commissioner from the Session is needed.
- Peter Kelley reported that the Mraz family will be leaving New York to move closer to extended family in Kansas and Colorado. This will be the fifth Christian Education/Faith Formation transition during Rev. Kelley’s tenure at FPC. There will be a sendoff for the Mrazes, and their departure will be a loss. There will be a planning meeting on September 23rd for Elders and Deacons at Seagayan Club in Peconic. There will be a dedication of the Steeple in Worship this fall.
- Doug MacArthur reported that the Deacons appreciate the financial help from the Session. The Deacons are working on the Golf Outing on September 7. Two new Recovery Houses for women are opening, and the Deacons will bring baskets for new residents, supplanting the work that Faith Finne does for the Sober House. There were two Persons In Need (PIN) requests from CAST – one for funeral costs, and one for rent help. The Giving Tree will be sprouting leaves for the school supply drive. The Deacons are working on a procedure for calling the homebound members of our church.
- Dave Collins and Paul Geiger reported for Buildings & Grounds. The Geigers have been doing a lot of work to prep and paint the Old Manse. The Session voted to go forward with a plan to replace the windows in the Old Manse, if the way be clear. The Finance Committee presented a recommendation to use the Major Repairs Fund and the proceeds of the Golf Outing to fund the new windows. In addition, the committee patched the parking lot, graded the barn driveway, and finalized the repairs on the AC system that caused the leak in the sanctuary.
- Sue Russell reported for Faith Formation that a couple of volunteers were still needed for Vacation Bible Study. The Youth Group had a food drive at IGA. More leaders are needed for Kids’ Church. And Sunset Devotions and Friday Devotions were continuing.
- Stew Ross reported for the Hospitality and Fellowship Committee that there were plans for a Church Picnic in September, and the Committee would provide lunch for the

Planning Meeting at Seagayan. The Committee will talk with Buildings & Grounds to decide whether to replace the broken freezer in the CE wing.

- Karen Murray reported for the Mission Committee. The Stepping Stones team will meet on July 30. They are leaning toward housing a CAST client. The Town of Southold has no objections to using the Manse for housing, provided that it is in furtherance of the ministry and mission of the church. The Mission Committee and the Deacons will talk about restarting the Eagles' Wings ministry. George and Lynn Summers have been attending FPC since George retired as pastor of Advent Lutheran Church, and Lynn is interested in helping with Eagles' Wings. A team of 11 people from FPC marched in the Pride Parade in Greenport, and it was a big success. Thanks to Mark and Margot Bridgen, who led the effort and ordered a banner, t-shirts and Pride flags.
- John Touhey reported that the Personnel Committee will meet to determine next steps for Faith Formation after Mary Mraz has announced a departure date. The committee is preparing for the staff evaluation process, as well as discussing salary and benefits.
- Ralph Edwards reported for the Stewardship & Finance Committee that budget season is kicking off. There will be a Moment for Stewardship in July.
- Jay Batterman reported for the Worship Committee that the Bell Choir will be starting up again. The Session voted to approve a guest preacher for September 3.
- Paul Geiger led the closing prayer.