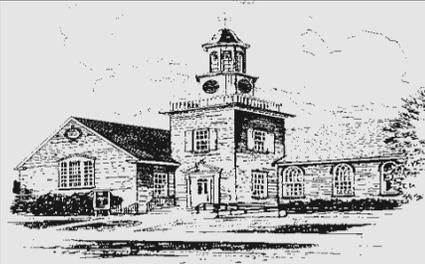


# TOWER CHIMES



July  
2018

Welcome to the  
monthly newsletter  
of  
**Community  
Presbyterian  
Church**

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**Community Presbyterian  
Church of Merrick**

## From the Desk of Pastor Moira Ahearne



Dear Merrick family,

Won't you be my neighbor? This is the title of a new movie-documentary about Fred Roger's of "Mr. Roger's Neighborhood", a children's television show that ran for nearly 40 years. Fred Rogers was a Presbyterian minister who ministered to children in the specialized call of television. He spread the Gospel of love with profound humanity and respect for the developmental challenges of children. While he never spoke the name of Jesus on air or told his audience that he was a minister, he always treated his work as a ministry. He always spoke of love and acceptance of each other.

As Christians, we, too, are called to spread the Gospel of love. In this world where everything seems to be conditional, where being an acceptable human being is based on how smart or rich or successful we are, Christians are called to counter the idea that love is conditional. Jesus gave his life for us while we were still in our sins. Jesus healed people before they recognized him as Lord. Jesus engaged the people his society considered oppressors, criminals and outcasts. Jesus declared that even, especially, the poor, grieving and persecuted were blessed and beloved of God.

As Christians, our calling is to recognize in our neighbor what God loves in them and relate to the stranger, and even the offender, as a person who God loves and whom we are called to love as well. Jesus often rebuked mean-spirited conduct while loving the person as they were. Jesus didn't require the centurion to leave the army, but to live healthfully and to care for his community. Jesus didn't require the tax collector to abandon his office, but inspired him to deal justly. Jesus never asked the Pharisee to cease teaching, but left them deeply pondering the humility and compassion possible in proclaiming their faith.

We learn from Jesus that love is the language of evangelism. We can learn from Godly people, like Fred Rogers, how to love really well in our lives.

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God  
with all thy heart, and with all thy soul,  
and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength:  
this is the first commandment.

And the second is like, namely this,  
Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

There is none other commandment greater than these.

Mark 12:30-31

**From the Desk of Pastor Moira  
Clerk's Corner**

**In Sympathy – Rev. Tom Philipp**

**In Sympathy – Lois Leimbach**

**Summer Office Hours**

**June Prayer Requests**

**Baby Girl News**

**Garage Sale Recap**

**Youth-Led Service Recap**

**Recognition Sunday Recap**

**CPC Website News**

**Thanks to Our Choirs**

**Summer Facebook**

**Dinner with the Pastor**

**July Birthdays**

**Pastor Moira Study Leave**

**Hymn Sing Service on July 15**

**LI Ducks Game**

**Aug. and Sept. Events**

**July Calendar**

Fred Rogers took Jesus' loving imperative "Let the children come onto me" and extended it to the television audience. Rogers did not require children know anything, have particular beliefs, be obedient or come with smiles or laughter or gratitude or respect. Instead, Rogers insisted that each child is "special, just the way they are". That is good theology, good education and a correct understanding of child development. God loves each of us as unique persons and that does indeed make each of us special in our personal and unique condition.

Fred Rogers did not minister in a church, but in the world of public television, where it was not possible or appropriate to discuss or promote religious doctrine. But the children who experienced his message of love in the midst of their fears, insecurities and wonders did not need to know the theology of their beloved teacher. Instead, they trusted his love.

As the Community Presbyterian Church of Merrick, we want our neighbors to know we are Christians by our love. We want our love to transform strangers into neighbors. We want to love people as they need to be loved, as they are unique, because they are special, unique beloved people to God and to us.

I encourage everyone to see the movie. It is good to be inspired by the life of a godly man and learn from him how to love as Jesus would have us love. Let us love our God in loving our neighbors, and ourselves.

Faithfully Yours,  
*Pastor Moira*

## Clerk's Corner

### *Happy Summer!*

Just a few reminders:

**As I noted last month, we'll be continuing our regular schedule through the summer. So be sure to join us at 9 am right here in Merrick!**

We're also planning a number of activities over the summer, including:

- Ducks Baseball Game (Aug. 19)
- Mini-Golf
- BBQ (probably around Welcome Back Sunday)

Exact dates yet to be determined. Watch out for announcements for dates and times.

On a less than fun note, we are also planning a work day(s) probably in August. We'll address some issues around the church, but will be primarily

focusing on getting the Manse ready for its new occupants. Again, watch out for later announcements.

Finally, don't forget our weekly food collections. The need is always there and doesn't take time off for the summer. We will be making regular deliveries to the food pantry in Freeport.

Enjoy your summer!

*Gary*



We are saddened to convey the passing of The Rev. Thomas J. Philipp who went home to the Lord on June 13 after a brief illness.

As some of you will remember, Pastor Tom pastored at CPC from 1982 to 2006 when he partially retired.

A wake was held at N.F. Walker Funeral Home in Merrick, and a funeral service at the Old South Haven Presbyterian church where he pastored.

Tom's niece, Pastor Rachel Vione of the First Presbyterian Church in Northport, led the funeral service paying tribute to her uncle and celebrating his many years as a Presbyterian Minister.

Pastor Tom was one-of-a-kind, and he touched the hearts of many. His passing will be deeply felt by all.

Below please find his official obituary.

**Philipp, Rev. Thomas J**, 82, on Wednesday, June 13, 2018 of Brookhaven, NY, following a brief illness. Son of the late William B., and Martha Philipp. Loving uncle of the Rev. Rachel Philipp Vione (Joseph), Elizabeth Philipp (David Pettker), Timothy Philipp and Joseph Philipp. Dear brother of the late Rev. William P. Philipp, and brother-in-law of Lois Philipp. Great uncle to Joseph and Amanda Vione and Andrew, Nicholas and Katherine Pettker. Beloved pastor of the wonderful congregation at Old South Haven Presbyterian Church in Brookhaven, NY since April 2006.

Tom graduated from Minnehaha Academy, and Macalester College in St. Paul, MN; the State University of NY at Oswego, and Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He was ordained to the Christian Ministry on June 17, 1962 at Randolph Heights Presbyterian Church in St. Paul. Tom dedicated his life to caring for others and championing the underdog and those in need. He was the former President of the Nassau County Coalition on Family Planning, Executive Director of United Campus Ministries, Protestant Chaplain at Hofstra and Stony Brook Universities, Chair of Personnel for the Long

Island Council of Churches, Moderator of the Presbytery of Long Island, founding member of HOME (Housing Opportunities Made Equal), member of the Board of Directors of Planned Parenthood, President of South County Peace Group, supporter of More Light, Honoring All Voices, and Presbyterian Welcome. Tom was a tireless advocate for inclusivity and welcoming all persons, regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, background or social position, into the fellowship of the church.

In 2012, Tom was awarded the Unitas Award from Union Theological Seminary, which is given to the Distinguished Alumni/ae of the seminary. Tom was honored for his commitment to the “two-legged” gospel: the ministry proclaiming Jesus Christ as savior, and the ministry of social justice.

On June 17, 1987, the Community Presbyterian Church of Merrick, where Tom served as pastor for 24 years, held a celebration in honor of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination. On June 17, 2012, the Old South Haven Presbyterian Church held a celebration in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination. Tom preached his last sermon at Old South Haven on Sunday, May 3, 2018 and celebrated the Sacrament of The Lord’s Supper that day. He maintained his wit, sense of humor, convictions and kindness right to the end. At the time of his death, he was the oldest, actively serving pastor in the Presbytery of Long Island. Tom previously served as pastor in Watervliet, and Oswego, NY. Tom’s passion was for education, and he taught many in the classroom and in life. His true vocation in life was as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.

Tom was a patron of the arts and a lover of music and theater as well as a good scotch. He was a mentor, counselor, wisdom-bearer and friend to many. He will be missed by all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Tom’s memory to:

Old South Have Presbyterian Church,  
329 S. Country Rd, Brookhaven, NY 11719, or  
Union Theological Seminary, 3041 Broadway, New York, NY 10027. ***Rest in peace, Tom!***

**WE ARE ALSO** saddened to report the passing of member **Lois A. Leimbach** on June 21, 2018. She was a long-standing resident of Merrick for the past 57 years and member of CPC for 50 years. She is predeceased by her beloved husband Robert C. Leimbach, Sr.

Lois is survived by her 5 children. Her children are: her daughter Linda Nelson with her children Caitlin (Derek), Amanda, Craig and Scott; her daughter Carol Hawkins (Ken) and their children Lauren, Chris and Bryan; her daughter Leslie Connolly with her children Mark and Kyle; her son Robert Jr. (Margaret) and their children Ryan and Timothy; her son Peter and his children Casey, Riley and Haley. She is also survived by her dear great-grandchildren Cameron and Elliot.

She was a long-time Registered Nurse having retired from BOCES, Bethpage.

Visiting will be Sunday from 2-4 and 7-9pm. There will be a private funeral service with burial at Calverton National Cemetery, Calverton NY.

Lois truly loved flowers, but if you would prefer to make a donation in her name to your favorite charity, it will be greatly appreciated. ***Rest in peace, Lois!***

## **BREAKING NEWS!**

### **CPC TO STAY OPEN ALL SUMMER – UPDATE!**

**More information has come to light regarding CPC’s summer hours.**

Pastor Moira will continue her ‘Wednesdays in the Merrick office’ from 10am-2pm, and Tuesdays will remain ‘floater’ days between the Freeport and Merrick churches.

Barbara, on the other hand, will NOT maintain her ‘regular’ hours during the summer months. She will be at her desk on most **Wednesdays from 10-2pm** and on **Fridays from 8:30am-10:30am**. If you’re coming down for a visit, we recommend you call the office first to make sure someone is ‘in’.

Please be assured that church emails will be checked daily and phone messages periodically during the week. In cases of emergency, please call Pastor Moira at 917-327-2119, Fran Kelly at 221-3561 or Barbara Rivera at 359-1286.

And remember, Pastor Moira will be leading our 9am worship service in our Sanctuary all summer long!

**JUNE’S**



For Carol Alexander who went to Sloan Kettering for a biopsy on Tuesday, May 29.

Joan Gregorio who has breast cancer (Jessie G.)

“My son to release anger and make good choices”.

Please pray for Chris Ameti and his family. Chris was a member of AA who passed away last Friday. He is loved by three children."

Thank you Jesus for your many miracles in my life.  
(Mona)

Johnny Chewins who is serving his fourth tour in Kuwait  
(Mary L.)

"The continued good health of my mom, Chris Williams."  
(Karen B.)

Safe travel and a wonderful family gathering for our pastor!

"My dearest Aunt Helen...may she rest in peace."  
(Charlie L)

"My friend, Brandon and his family, after the sudden passing of his father. They need Prayers of Healing!!!  
(Scott D.)

With God's blessings, may Mary, Charlie, Charles, Pat, Emma, Donna, Judy and Mary Ann be lightened of their challenges. (Lauren and Max)

Lisa Danials  
Our leaders - may love guide them

Carol, for a cure of her cancer in her lymph nodes

Irene, for a cure for her cancer.

Safety for Brian on his Florida trip

Natalie Dodge – prayers of healing and recovery from pneumonia for my mother. (Scott Dodge)

Our recent engagement.

A full recovery for Billy, who suffered a total brain injury on May 1.



Congratulations to Chris and Heather Donohue on the birth of their daughter, Penelope Pantzer Donohue, who was born (7 lb. 9 oz. and 20" long)

on Wednesday, June 20, at 8:55am at Good Samaritan Hospital in West Islip. Heather and Chris are thrilled with the arrival of their beautiful new daughter. Congratulations to Brian and Cathy for becoming grandparents for the 4<sup>th</sup> time!

## How'd We Do at the June Garage Sale, You Asked?

**We did great!** After expenses, we made \$1,660 thanks to the efforts of everyone who helped!

Thank you to those of you who baked, brought items to sell, those who picked up merchandise (from others) and plants, made and put up signs, helped with the presorting, setting up, selling of

merchandise, and closing the sale down. And aside from that, special thanks to those of you who donated money to the cause! The deacons also want to thank the congregation as a whole for all their support and help throughout the year.

We were thrilled and grateful that so many of you showed up on Sale day to 'man the tables'! There were hardly any names on the volunteer list, and we were very concerned! But needless to say, you came through as you always do! We couldn't have done it without you!

Special thanks to Barbara Rivera for ALL the help she gave the deacons in putting this together. She is truly a one-(wo)man band!

Rumor has it that we're going to have another sale in October, so once again start saving all your stuff!

With sincere thanks, *your Deacons*

**JUNE 17 WAS OUR YOUTH-LED SERVICE**, and they did a terrific job!



Lily Caroline Williams and Lily Kelman-Nelson played a piano duet; Missy Bello led the Call to Worship; Charlie Leschinski Jr. led the Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon; our adult and youth choirs shared the anthem; all of our youth delivered the Children's Sermon; Rich Kelly on guitar and Lily Kelman-Nelson on piano joined our youth choir (Kent Alexander, Meadow Alexander, Milan Alexander, Jia Bello, Missy Bello, Rahsaan Humphrey Jr., Charlie Leschinski Jr., Emma Williams and Lily Williams) during the Offertory; Missy Bello read the first lesson; Milan Alexander the second; Kent Alexander, Meadow Alexander, Jia Bello and Emma Williams took on the role of ushers and greeters; Mary Jane Gould helped, Charlie Leschinski Jr., Mia Bello and Missy Bello collect the Offering; and Mia Bello read the Announcements.

Pastor Forrest Parkinson, husband of Pastor Moira Ahearne, was in our pulpit that morning and he jumped right in sharing the service with our youth.

During the service, the children were presented with Bibles or Bible storybooks purchased for them by the Deacons from grant money they received in cooperation with the Bellmore Presbyterian Church.

A terrific job was done by all, and enormous thanks to Mary Jane Gould and Lily Kelman-Nelson who did a bang-up job preparing our youth for their big day!

If these youth are our future, then we are in good hands!

## RECOGNITION SUNDAY

was celebrated after our service on June 29 with our Music and Christian Education commissions taking their well-deserved bows.



Many, many thanks to our Minister of Music, Cathy Donohue, who always works so hard each week to bring 'joyous noise unto the Lord' and to our always faithful and outstanding voice choir – Karen Bard, Brian Donohue, Jo Gencorelli, Kristen Jacobsen, Rich Kelly, Lily Kelman-Nelson, Mary Leschinski, Amanda Pitt, and Gary Stuber. They truly have voices of angels!

Our handbell choir always enriches our services during the Christmas season, and they, too, were thanked for their hard work. (Our handbell choir is made up of the same members as our voice choir with the addition of Nancy Stuber and last year, Pastor Joan Finck!)

It's obvious to all of us that Mary Jane Gould and Lily Kelman-Nelson are instrumental in the spiritual education of our children, and they, too, were thanked for their hard work, ingenuity, and dedication to the teachings of Christ.

We've said it before, and we'll say it again, that as small in numbers as we are, there is a huge amount of dedicated time, talent and treasure in our midst. Thank you, thank you, thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

## THANKS TO OUR CHOIRS!

This has been a wonderful year of music at our church thanks to our devoted choirs.



Our CPC Handbell Choir has never sounded better! The more we play, the more we learn, the better we sound! You can hear a sample of our Handbell Choir by going to our website, [cpcmerrick.org](http://cpcmerrick.org) or directly to our YouTube account, [cpcmerrick](http://cpcmerrick). Please consider joining us next year. We rehearse for about 6 weeks prior to playing, so that's all the commitment required. You will learn music, you will have fun, you will enhance our worship service!

Our CPC Choir has worked so diligently this year learning new music for each of our Sunday worship services. When you think about it, that's a lot of new music to master! The Choir cheerfully tackles each piece and presents

beautiful, meaningful singing each week. We have so much talent within the choir as you have seen. We have had lovely duets, solos, and instruments including cello, piano and guitar from our multi-talented members. So, thank a choir member the next time you see one! As with our Handbell Choir, you can view and hear some of our pieces on our website, [CPCMerrick.org](http://CPCMerrick.org) or on our You Tube Channel at [CPCMerrick](http://CPCMerrick). We always welcome new members and reading music is not a requirement. You will learn as you go along. Join us for rehearsal after church each Sunday!

## SUMMER FACEBOOK AND WEB SITE-- WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

Thanks to our photographers, Nancy Stuber and Al Lewis, we have been able to post terrific photos on our website. But, we need your pictures as well!

If you have a picture of the church or any church activities, please send it to me at [emmalou3272@gmail.com](mailto:emmalou3272@gmail.com) or directly to our YouTube channel at [cpcmerrick@gmail.com](mailto:cpcmerrick@gmail.com).

We also use photos for our Facebook account. Don't forget, that a picture says a thousand words! Thanks! Cathy Donohue

The 'DINNERS WITH THE PASTOR' have been going very nicely. As of this writing, three have already taken



place, and there are three more to go! Pastors Moira and Forrest have thoroughly enjoyed meeting everyone in a more relaxed setting with the opportunity of getting to know them better, and the same can be said of our dinner guests about Pastor Moira and her husband, Forrest.

We are all on the same team and share the same love of God. Together, we can do anything!

Thank you Pastors Moira and Forrest for your invitations to dinner and for the opportunity to get to know you better! And for the always delicious dinners being prepared with love and served with generosity!

## July Birthdays:

Grace Wright	7
Joe Schuessler	12
Peter Williams	12
Bradley Kelly	13
Tom Rose	16
Mary Williams	22
Nancy Stuber	23
Pauline Murray	25



*(If your name did not appear here, it's because we don't know it's your birthday! Please call Diane Wood at 623-9495 10 so we can add your name to our list!)*

**PASTOR MOIRA WILL BE AWAY** on Study Leave and vacation from July 9 through July 21. Pastor Jim Barnum will be covering for pastoral emergencies, and he can be reached at 785-2590. You may also call Fran Kelly at 221-3561.

Please join us for a



Since Pastor Moira will be away on study leave that Sunday, we've decided to give praise to our Lord with a **HYMN SING** worship service! More hymns will be incorporated into the body of our 'regular' service to bring "joyful noise unto our Lord". So warm up your vocal chords and come prepared to sing your favorite hymn!

Any articles for the Tower Chimes are due into the office by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the prior month, so all articles for the August edition are due into the office by July 15. Thank you!

## UPCOMING IN AUGUST!!!



Freeport Presbyterian is getting discounted tickets to a **LI Ducks baseball game on Sunday, August 19 at 5pm**, and they've asked us to join them!

**Adults will cost \$20  
And Children under 14, \$10**

**(The Bethpage Ballpark's address is:  
3 Court House Drive, Central Islip)**

Please call Georgia Houle at 516.378.8416 to RESERVE your ticket(s) or email her at [gmcgill731@gmail.com](mailto:gmcgill731@gmail.com). You can pay cash at the game or pay ahead of time by making your check out to **First Presbyterian Church of Freeport** and noting the number of tickets on the check.

Checks may be given to Barbara Rivera in Merrick or to Glenn Naidoo or Georgia Houle in Freeport.

**PLEASE RESERVE YOUR TICKETS  
BY AUGUST 12.**

And be on the lookout for an afternoon of mini golf at Eisenhower Park and a Welcome Back BBQ / Church Cookout in **SEPTEMBER!**



# JULY 2018

Sunday	Mon.	Tues.	Wednes.	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9am Worship Service; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; <b>Communion (Al Lewis, Gary Stuber, Nancy Stuber and Bobbie Zimmerman-Lewis); CHILDREN WILL WORSHIP WITH THEIR FAMILIES IN THE SANCTUARY;</b> Usher Team #5 (Joe Arcuri, Alex Bard, Marissa Bello, Pat Lofaro and Vinny Lofaro); <b>Refreshments after service;</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  AA 7:30-9:30p	<b>4</b>  <b>HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!!! (office closed)</b>  OPA 7-10pm	<b>5</b> Pastor Moira and Barb in	<b>6</b> Barb in 8:30am-10:30am  AA 6:45-9:30p;  <b>7pm DINNER WITH THE PASTOR in Freeport</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9am Worship Service; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Usher Team #1 (Pat Dubovick, Charlie Leschinski, Nancy Stuber and George Weeks); <b>CHILDREN WILL WORSHIP WITH THEIR FAMILIES IN THE SANCTUARY ; Refreshments after service;</b> NASC 1-6pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
	Pastor Moira away on Study Leave / Vacation. Pastor Barnum (785-2590) will be covering for Pastor Moira while she's away.					
<b>15</b> 9am Worship Service;  Usher volunteers needed; <b>CHILDREN WILL WORSHIP WITH THEIR FAMILIES IN THE SANCTUARY;</b> <b>Tower Chimes Articles Due Refreshments after service</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
	Pastor Barnum (785-2590) covering for Pastor Moira while she's away.					
<b>22</b> 9a Worship Service; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Usher volunteers needed; <b>CHILDREN WILL WORSHIP WITH THEIR FAMILIES IN THE SANCTUARY;</b> <b>Refreshments after service</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  AA 7:30-9:30p	<b>25</b> Pastor Moira in 10am-2pm.  Barb in 10am-2pm  OPA 7-10pm	<b>26</b>  <b>7pm Session meeting at CPC</b>  NA 7-9:30pm	<b>27</b> Barb in 8:30am-10:30am AA 6:45-9:30p <b>7pm DINNER WITH THE PASTOR in Merrick</b>	<b>28</b>
	<b>29</b> 9am Worship Service; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; Usher volunteers needed; <b>CHILDREN WILL WORSHIP WITH THEIR FAMILIES IN THE SANCTUARY;</b> <b>Refreshments after service</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  AA 7:30-9:30p	Aug. 1  Pastor Moira in 10am-2pm.  Barb in 10am-2pm  OPA 7-10pm	Aug. 2  NA 7-9:30pm	Aug. 3  Barb in 8:30am-10:30am  AA 6:45-9:30p

UPCOMING: We're looking into an afternoon of **mini golf** at Eisenhower Park in **SEPTEMBER** as well as a possible **Welcome Back BBQ/Church Cookout**. We'll keep you posted!