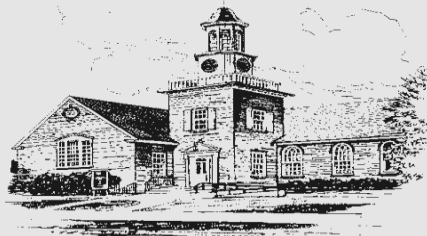


# TOWER CHIMES



SEPTEMBER  
WELCOME  
BACK!

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

2101 William Place  
Merrick, NY, 11566  
516 – 378 – 7761

#### E-Mail

cpcmerrick  
@optonline.net

#### Website

www.cpcmerrick.org

**Rev. Moira Ahearne,**

Pastor

moiraahearne@aol.com

Thomas Rose

Pres. and Treasurer

Trose1@optonline.net

Scott Dodge

Financial Secretary

alansdodge007@gmail.com



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Community Presbyterian  
Church of Merrick

## From the Desk of Pastor Moira Ahearne

*But now, this is what the LORD says-- he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. Isaiah 43:1*

Dear Church Family and Friends:

Rush hour on the Long Island Expressway (LIE) is your typical bumper-to-bumper grind. Unhappy motorists inch along, scowl at vehicles that snake in and out of lanes, lay on the horn at the cheeky SUVs that muscle their way ahead of the line, with not even the courtesy of a blinker. I had settled in the far-left lane. At the rate I was going, I wouldn't reach my destination for at least 1 ½ hours.

It turns out I didn't reach it at all.

I accelerated as the car ahead of me moved. Then my car stopped. I mean stopped. No cough, cough, phizzzzzzzzzz. It was "good night, folks," the curtains were drawn, and a red battery volt light to tell me something very, very bad had just happened. Fortunately, in heavy rush hour on the LIE, ten miles an hour is speeding. So, I wasn't in immediate danger of being hit. However, the pileup effect was instantaneous. A serenade of horns and disgruntled faces greeted me as I sat there, stuck in the far-left lane, blocking traffic.

As I called 911, a police cruiser came from behind. The policeman gave me instructions. "Put the car in neutral." OK. Next, he gave a big push. Over his bullhorn, instructions were repeated, "Now steer to the right!"

Steer to the right? You mean go right into all that moving traffic?

Trust they will stop in time so I can make it to the right shoulder?

However, I had no choice. I had to trust.

So I crossed three lanes of flowing traffic and watched helplessly as cars veered helter-skelter. Time slowed down. I could see every startled and panicked face that swerved out of my way. Yet I made it finally to the shoulder and to safety. If I weren't so terrified and trembling, I would have jumped out and kissed the guardrail. I eventually got towed to my mechanic. Although I missed my appointment, that is nothing compared to the realization that no one was hurt, there's no scratch on the car, and everyone eventually got home safe and sound.

As I thought about this incident, it occurred to me that at one time or another, we have had "the stalled in the fast lane" situation. We go happily along juggling five or six projects, existing on emotional steam it seems. Sooner or later, something gives. It can be a health problem. An emotional or mental crisis. Maybe a spiritual awakening. Or perhaps something changes at work, or our relationships are not responding like they used to. The bottom line is that the electrical wiring which charges our life and gives us purpose and energy gives out. It just stops.



(continues on next page)

The kicker is, to get to safety we have to cross all that ongoing traffic. There's no other way to the shoulder. We have to trust that a way will be made. It's called radical trust. God called Abram and Sarai (Gen. 12) out in their old age promising them a child, a land and to make them a nation. God promised to deliver the people of Israel out of slavery (Ex. 3). God promised David a throne and kingdom that would last forever (2 Sam. 7). Responding to God's call takes trust, reorientation of our lives and time. Plenty of time. This is because our lives need to be rewired to the blessing and hope God wants to place in our hearts.

As we prepare for a new season at church, and we actively engage the process of revitalization of our hearts and our congregation, we find ourselves "stuck in the fast lane." We are stalled. We find ourselves needing to be moved to a better place. We encounter the fear of unknown collisions on the path ahead of us. Behind us, however, the Holy Spirit, is telling us to move. Don't you feel the Spirit pushing us? We need to trust Jesus, the Divine Mechanic, to rewire us and get us moving again in the right direction.



Let our new motto for the rest of 2022 be the old beloved phrase: "Jesus, take the wheel!"

Faithfully yours, *Pastor Moira*

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL

As the families of our church (and nation) get ready to send their most beloved and prized possessions back to school, let's join in prayer for our children:

**Kent and Meadow Alexander- 5th grade, 9 years old**

**Milan Alexander- 10th grade, 14 years old**

**Jia Bello- Calhoun High School, 14 years old**

**Mia Bello will begin her sophomore year at Binghamton, 19 years old**

**Missy Bello- 12th grade, 17 years old**

**Ellie Bowani - 5th grade, 10 years old**

**Phoenix Bowani - 2 years old**

**Raj Bowani- 2nd grade, 6 years old**

**Madison Burlacu- Kindergarten, 4 years old**

**Tristan Burlacu- 2nd grade, 8 years old**

**Charlie Leschinski III- 12th grade, 17 years old**

**Noah Pitt- 14 months old**

**Christopher Williams – nursery school, 4 years old**

**Emma Williams-6th grade, 10 years old**

**Lily Williams- 8th grade, 13 years old**

*(Feel free to send them a card if you like!)*

Dear God,

*You are Yahweh-Shalom, our peace, and as parents and caregivers nervously send their children back to school, we need your peace more than ever. You instruct us not to worry about anything, but you do not leave us at that point: you provide a path from worry to peace. Please help us take our anxious thoughts captive and replace them with prayers and petitions. Help us to lace our prayers with thanksgiving to you - for the children we are praying for, for the protection you've provided in the past, for medical care, for dedicated teachers, for the opportunity to learn. And then, when we have prayed to you and petitioned you and thanked you, wash over us with peace that goes beyond what we can understand - peace so powerful, it often makes no sense in this world.*

*Thank you that your peace is not something we have to work out for ourselves but is instead a gift you give to us as you turn your face toward us. Let us be ruled by your peace so that it—not worry—is what has authority in our lives. And where, in our own strength, we would go out in gloom and be led by anxiousness, help us instead to "go out in joy and be led forth in peace" ([Isaiah 55:12](#)).*

*"And let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you." [Psalm 5:11](#)*

*In Jesus' name, amen!*

<https://www.crosswalk.com/>



from the **SUMMER**

We've had a lot of prayer requests over the summer that we'd like to share with you:

**FROM JUNE:** ~Please join in prayer for **Matthew, Fuku, and Jun Luke Foster** who are all recovering from Covid.

~Prayers for **Jessie Gregorio** and her family on the passing of her sister, Ina.

~Continued prayer of healing for **Brian Donohue**.

~Please pray for Charlie's cousin, **Richard Lesczynski**, who is home from bladder cancer surgery and having a tough time recovering.

~For Charlie's neighbor, **Kenny and his family**, who lost his father this week.

~For **Gus Piasano** who is still in hospice.  
~For **Danielle Piasano** who fell off a ladder. Prayers of healing.  
~Please join Amanda Kelly-Pitt in prayer for **Randy**.  
~Please join Lily Kelman-Nelson in 50<sup>th</sup> birthday prayers for her brother, **Ronnie**.  
~Prayers for **Steven Rivera** as he goes through medical testing.

~Prayers for **Frank Gencorelli** who is in the hospital.  
~Please join Joe Arcuri in prayer for the **victims of inner-city violence** due to narcotics, gangs, poverty, domestic abuse, and more. (There are over 250 Fentanyl deaths in the USA per day (100,000 per year) with most of the deaths among teenagers and young adults. The drug spans the ages of 13-50! As a comparison, gun violence claims 21,000 USA lives a year and automobile accidents, 43,000. It is truly a national crisis.)  
~Please pray for **Ukraine, its casualties of war and PEACE!**

### **FROM JULY:**

~We pray with David Brackett for his son-in-law's brother, **Stephen**, who had a stroke and is not doing well.  
~Prayers of recuperation for **Frank Gencorelli** who is in rehab.  
~Please join in prayers of a full recovery for **Ernie Bayha** who had heart surgery.  
~Prayers of congratulations to **Katie and Mike Hill** on the birth of their second child, Joseph Henry, on June 24. Big sister, three-year old Meri, is taking the 'wait and see' attitude! Katie is the daughter of Joe and Anne Schuessler. Congratulations to all!  
~Please join Fran in prayer for her friend, **Ramona**, who recently had a kidney transplant.  
~Please join Laura Asch in prayer for **Sue Bruno** who is battling cancer.  
~Prayers of thanks for **Ginny's** recovery from Covid.  
~Prayers of thanks for **Frank Gencorelli** who is now home.  
~Prayers of healing for **Matthew Foster** who recently broke his arm.

### **FROM AUGUST:**

~Please pray for Charlie's cousin, **Richard Lesczynski**, who is back in the hospital.  
~We pray for a full recovery for **Donna Jeffrey** who has COVID.  
~ We pray with **Joe Nelson whose parents'** health is declining.  
~Please pray for **Raegan Kantor** who is a child recently hospitalized with several infections, dehydration and anemia.

~Prayers for **Ernie Bayha and family** recovering from Covid.

~ Prayers of thanks to **Joe Schuessler and Frank Kost** for helping out with the Board of Elections

### **NO SUMMER BREAK FOR OUR ELDERS AND DEACONS!**

It's been a busy summer all around, and here's what's been going on at CPC over the summer:

Our Property Commission continued their 'grounds' projects with the removal of three diseased trees and a previously fallen tree along with a total yard clean-up; the establishment of a new flower garden under the Powerhouse Church of God sign in the front along with new flowers and bushes being planted (thanks to the efforts of Mona Grimm and Barbara Rivera); the trimming and shaping of many overgrown bushes (thanks Tom Rose) and clean-up (thanks Danny Kost); the gutters have also been cleaned; and new signs have been posted in the parking lot. Property is working on more closet space for us, Powerhouse Church, and the Peace Korean Church. (PROPERTY would also like to begin again, once the weather cools a bit, meeting at the church at 9:30am on Saturdays to lend some helping hands on various projects. Be on the lookout for the start date!)

Danny Kost and Charlie Leschinski continued to share lawn duties; Scott Dodge tended to the veggie garden all summer...watering, pruning, nurturing, fertilizing, and Barbara would come up now and then to weed, etc. Charlie also continued to set up and provide food and drink for our coffee hours on Sundays.

Pastor Moira was able to get in 2 well-deserved mini vacations, and we thank George Petersen for filling in for her. George, himself, was able to get in an also well-deserved 3-week European vacation in July, and left us in good hands with wonderful musicians to fill in during his absence. Cassidy Go, pianist, and Candis Alek, soloist, did a fantastic job, and we are very grateful for them!

Our youth led the service on Father's Day and did an absolutely fantastic job! Ellie Bowani, Meadow Alexander, Emma Williams, Kent Alexander, and Milan Alexander led us in the liturgies. Emma and Lily Williams played a piano duet, Lily also played the viola while auntie Lily Kelman-Nelson accompanied her on the piano, and Emma played the trumpet to auntie Lily's accompaniment on the piano. It was truly a service to remember. Thank you Christian Education



teacher and elder Lily Kelman-Nelson for helping our youth get ready for their big day!

We honored all fathers and the father-like figures in our lives on that Sunday with blue carnations (thank you Mary Leschinski), and then honored all our church volunteers at the coffee hour following the service. (Thank you, Fran Kelly and again, Mary Leschinski.)

Elder David Brackett stepped down as our Clerk of Session over the summer and transferred his and Jamie's memberships to the First Presbyterian Church of Freeport. We thank David and Jamie for their time spent with us here at CPC and wish them well over at FPC.

Diane Wood returned to Session to fill the vacant position created by David's leaving. She will be heading up a 'new' commission called "Neighborhood." Back in the day, this might have been called 'Outreach.' We thank Diane for stepping up to the plate and welcome her as our newest acting Elder. (Please see the following article from Diane.)

Pastor Moira led a deacon and elder Church revitalization meeting the end of July with the purpose of strategizing the rejuvenation of our congregation. **PLEASE REMEMBER THAT OUR ELDERS AND DEACONS CAN ONLY DO SO MUCH, AND IT'S UP TO THE REST OF OUR CONGREGATION TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THE LIVELIHOOD OF THE CHURCH.**

The Peace Korean Presbyterian Church threw a three-church BBQ the end of July inviting both the Powerhouse Church of God and CPC. It was a nice day, a nice turnout, and a wonderful opportunity for the churches to get together as one. Look for more of this in the future. (Thank you, Diane Wood, for coordinating with the Peace Korean Church.)

During August our Deacons again began collecting school supplies and backpacks for the children of the Freeport Emergency Food pantry. As of this writing, 8 backpacks were donated and enough supplies to fill 20! Please know that your donations truly make a difference! The cost of these supplies for one household with a few children is enormous, and we're happy to say, "and I helped!" (*Our deacons profusely thank everyone who donated!*)

Our GARDEN OF EATIN', under the watchful eye of Scott Dodge, has been producing nicely. The tomatoes and cukes are growing and producing "divinely"; the strawberry plants are 'off & running', and we're hoping the potato harvest soon will be an "eyeful"! (Thanks to Mona and Joe Schuessler for taking turns delivering the crops to the Pantry.) The really hot summer weather

nearly fried the garden this year, but Scott's persistent watering saved the day, or should we say 'saved the veggies!'

Donations to the food pantry and the animal shelter were very light over the summer, as was Sunday attendance, but we are hoping this will turn around come the cooler weather in September.

And that brings us up-to-date! Thanks to everyone who lent a helping hand!

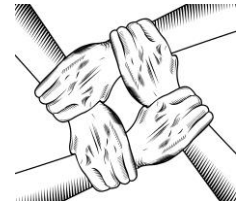
## 'NEIGHBORSHIP'

We now share our roof with two other diverse Christian neighbors, the Power House Church and the Korean Peace Presbyterian Church as well as our shared Ministry with the Freeport Presbyterian Church. Each church had a need that the Lord has met. He put us together for a purpose, His purpose. So, I have joined the Session to be CPC's contact person for Joint Journeying in doing Our Lord's Purpose together with our "Neighboring Churches".

This Fellowshiping and Outreaching, done together, can benefit a multitude of communities. We can learn and support each other. Back on July 31, the Peace Presbyterian Church invited the PHC and CPC to a wonderful time of food and fellowship at their Korean BBQ, and the Spirit of Our Lord was there. It was such a joyous gathering of getting to know each other. I saw so many smiling faces there!

So, I will keep you informed about future events and outreach venues that the four churches can participate in together, to do Our Lord's Mission. Please feel free to contact me about any ideas or thoughts you would like to share.

Your Joyful Servant of Jesus, Diane Wood



Now that our choir has had their much needed and deserved summer break to relax and rejuvenate their vocal cords, they

are ready and rarin' to go at our September 11 Welcome Back / Patriot Day service.

We'd like to ask again if anyone would like to join the choir. You don't have to have a great voice... You don't have to read music... You don't have to know every single hymn...



But you DO have to want to 'make joyous music unto the Lord' and you DO have to come to choir practice on Sunday mornings around 8am in addition to another occasional meeting to go over upcoming music.

Our present choir is doing its best to lead you each and every Sunday, and more voices could only enhance our Sunday morning music experience.

Please, if you're the slightest bit interested, talk to George Petersen.

## September Birthdays:

Brian Kelly	5
Barbara Robertson	12
Joseph Nelson	18
Andrew Ojeda	21
Patricia Dubovick	26
Jamie Brackett	29



*(If your name did not appear here, it's because we don't know it's your birthday! Please call Laura Asch at 303-2188 so we can add your name to our list!)*



### CPC OFFICE HOURS

**REMINDER** – Barbara will be in the office on:  
**Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30am-12:30pm; Wednesdays 11am-4pm and Fridays**

**12noon-3pm. The Sanctuary will be open during those times as well.**

Mondays will remain as Pastor Moira's 'spiritual health days' and she will not be doing any church business. However, if there is an **emergency**, please do not hesitate to call, text or email her at: 917-327-2119 or [moirahearne@aol.com](mailto:moirahearne@aol.com).



**LABOR DAY** falls on September 5 this year, and we will be honoring all those workers by closing the office! (That's kind of an oxymoron, don't you

think?) It also marks the last weekend of summer and the start of the new school year.



**BIBLE STUDY** will continue on Wednesdays at 12:30pm via ZOOM. **Starting on September 7, we will begin Acts 9.**

Please remember that Bible knowledge is not a prerequisite and that we are all simply there to learn and discuss our Biblical points of view. You'll be amazed as to how much you can absorb by just listening to someone else's viewpoint.

The ZOOM link will be provided every week, and we ask that you let Pastor Moira know EACH WEEK if you will be attending that week's class. Any questions? Call Pastor Moira at 917.327.2119.



Fran will again be hosting at her home the September **Women's Fellowship breakfast** at 10am on Saturday, **Sept. 10**. Please be

sure to call Fran if you plan to attend so she can get a headcount! And remember, you are always welcomed to bring a friend!

## SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> SUNRISE MEMORIAL



The Town of Hempstead will be holding a Sunrise Memorial Service on Sunday, September 11 at Town Park Point Lookout. This annual beachfront event pays tribute to the men and women lost as a result of the 9/11 terror attacks, as well as recognizes the police officers, firefighters, first responders and volunteer heroes who saved countless lives on that day and in the days following. The memorial will be from 7:30am-9am.

Town of Hempstead Supervisor, Donald X. Clavin, Jr., said in a release, "Nearly 20 years ago, many residents were drawn to the beach, only to look west in the distance to see the painful site of the smoke where the Twin Towers once stood. As we approach this emotional anniversary, we invite you to return to the town's annual beachside Memorial Service on the therapeutic sands along the soothing ocean of Town Park Point Lookout."

Residents are also encouraged to visit the Town of Hempstead's 9/11 Memorial Park at Point Lookout, which includes a 30-foot steel beam from the Twin Towers, a special Memorial Table and Memorial Wall.

Town Park Point Lookout is located on Lido Boulevard in Point Lookout.



Sunday School teacher and elder, Lily



Kelman-Nelson, is anxiously awaiting our students back with open arms. Lily has already been preparing the lessons and can't wait to begin another church year with her students on **SEPTEMBER 18!**

Here are a few words from Lily:

*Hope you all have had a wonderful summer! Please join us as we welcome you and your children back to church on September 11. After the service, you can "meet the teachers" over coffee and cake: Mrs. Kelman (Lily) daycare; Mrs. Williams (Maryjean) nursery-3rd grade, Mrs. Nelson (Lily) 4th-8th grade.*

**Sunday school begins on September 18.** Daycare is available at 10 am. The other kids will worship upstairs at 10:00 and then, after Pastor Moira delivers the Children's sermon, Mrs. Williams (Maryjean) will bring the kids downstairs for Sunday school. We'll start each class with a "one room schoolhouse" music program in the Nursery room. Then I will take the 4th-8th graders into the 'new' Sunday School classroom. See you in September! 😊 - Mrs. Nelson (Lily)

## 'WELCOME BACK' CHURCH SERVICE Sunday, Sept. 11 at 9am!

Pastor Moira is excited to welcome you in kicking-off another Church year and will be in the pulpit sharing the Word of God. George Petersen will be back tickling those ivories, and our choir is looking forward to leading you in song!

Please don't forget we need a **LITURGIST** each week. You may sign up in the book in the Sanctuary or just call the office.

If you'd like to **ORDER FLOWERS** for a service, please **call or text Mary at 516-661-5017**. The cost is \$18, and you may keep the flowers if you like. You can also just donate to our flower fund at any time.

Our **USHER TEAMS** are ready for your return as well, and please remember that anyone can usher. Just give Bobbie a call at 917.968-5600 if you'd like to even occasionally help.

**COFFEE HOURS** will continue to follow each service, and any foods you could bring to share would be most appreciated by Charlie and the rest of us!

**COMMUNION SERVICES** will continue on the first Sunday of every month, and we are still using pre-filled cups as a precautionary measure against COVID.

Any **PRAYER REQUESTS** should be **called in or texted to Pastor Moira before Friday** of each Sunday service. (To have them **appear** in the bulletin, you must notify the office by Thursday morning of each week.)

### AND LET'S NOT FORGET ALL OUR ON-GOING PROGRAMS!

We are continuing our collection for the **FREEPORT ANIMAL SHELTER/BOBBIE AND THE STRAYS** of dog/cat/puppy/kitten food as well as clean rugs and towels.

Let's not forget about our **ONE-FOOD-ITEM-A-SUNDAY** program. The donation bins are located in the narthex and in the back hallway near the handicapped bathroom. All donations benefit the Freeport Emergency Food Pantry.

Our **PENNIES-FOR-PEOPLE** coin jar will be on the back table of the sanctuary with 100% of the donations going to the Freeport Food Pantry.

Our **GARDEN OF EATIN'** donation jar can also be found in the back of the sanctuary, and all proceeds will be benefitting our garden. Tools, caging, fertilizer, plants, etc.

Our Deacons would like to remind you that you may **donate to THE DEACONS' FUND, our MEMORIAL FUND** or our **FLOWER FUND** at any time throughout the year.

**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 OCTOBER edition are due into the office by SEPTEMBER 15. Thank you!**

### INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE – SEPT. 21



The International Day of Peace (or World Peace Day) is celebrated annually on Sept. 21 and is devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and

peoples. At a time when war and violence often monopolize our news cycles, the International Day of



Peace is an inspiring reminder of what we can create together. Peace. Let's give it a chance!

In 1981, the United Nations General Assembly declared the third Tuesday of September as International Day of Peace. This day coincided with the opening day of the annual sessions of the General Assembly. The purpose of the day was and still remains, to strengthen the ideals of peace around the world.

Two decades after establishing this day of observance, in 2001, the assembly moved the date to be observed annually on September 21. So, beginning in 2002, September 21 marks not only a time to discuss how to promote and maintain peace among all peoples but also a 24-hour period of global ceasefire and non-violence for groups in active combat.

Peace is possible. Throughout history, most societies have lived in peace most of the time. Today, we are much less likely to die in war than our parents or grandparents. Since the establishment of the United Nations and the creation of the Charter of the United Nations, governments are obligated not to use force against others unless they are acting in self-defense or have been authorized by the UN Security Council to proceed.

Life is better in a world where peace exists and, today, we look to those who have been peacemakers and peacekeepers to learn what we can each do individually to make the world a more peaceful place.

### **TRADITIONS OF THE DAY BY THE NUMBERS**

The International Day of Peace was established by the United Nations General Assembly for strengthening the standards of peace. The day is devoted to observing 24 hours of cease-fire and non-violence.

It is more important than ever today to promote peace and open-mindedness for acceptance across gender, race, and territories. Individuals and organizations around the world participate in activities and host events centered on a set theme for the year. Activities vary from private events to public ceremonies, festivals, and concerts sending the message of peace to large audiences.

Educational institutes also take the lead, arranging art exhibitions and lessons for students to discuss how different cultures celebrate peace and to learn about conflict and wars in history so that mistakes are not repeated. On an individual level, people take part in activities like planting trees or setting caged animals free, as every little act helps in spreading the message of peace and love.

**\$13.6 trillion** – the economic cost of violence in 2015.

**9,800** – the number of terrorism websites containing violent material by September 2015.

**13%** – the percentage of women negotiators between 1992 and 2019.

**6%** – the percentage of women signatories in major peace processes worldwide between 1992 and 2019.

**11%** – the percentage of ceasefire agreements between 2015 and 2019, which included gender provisions.

**15.9 million** – the estimated number of people in Yemen's population hit by the world's worst food crisis.

**135 million** – the number of people in 2019 living with acute hunger.

**60%** – the percentage of people struck with acute hunger living in conflict countries.

**88** – the number of countries that had national action plans on women, peace, and security by October 2020.

**417** – the number of policy measures enacted by national governments in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

**408 million** – the estimated number of youth living in areas of armed conflict in 2016.

### **WHAT CAN WE DO?**

#### **1. Observe the global "Minute of Silence"**

In 1984, the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Pathways to Peace inaugurated the Minute of Silence. At noon in each time zone, this observance of silence creates a "Peace Wave" around the world. Individuals, organizations, communities, and nations are invited to participate in this shared and practical act of peace-building.

#### **2. Host a global peace feast**

Bring people together with a 'global' potluck, encouraging your friends and neighbors to share a unique dish from various countries or cultures. Breaking bread together is one of the oldest yet most effective ways to bring peace into your life. Interfaith and intercultural discussions can make the evening even richer.

#### **3. Foster peace through education**

Let peace begin at home with you and your family. Teach your children key concepts that promote peace such as conflict-resolution, peaceful dialogue, consensus-building, and the choice of non-violence.

<https://nationaltoday.com/>

**Holmes Camp and Conference Center:**  
**NEW Fall Nature Retreat is coming soon!!**  
**Save the date and join us for our Fall Nature Retreat on September 23-25.**

This nature and outdoors themed retreat offers chances for both budding and experienced naturalists to spend time in nature, expand their knowledge, and enjoy a like-minded community. Led by experienced naturalists and outdoor professionals the weekend includes **bird walks** and **guided hikes, learning sessions**, a chance to try new **outdoor activities**, and a **field trip** to another local nature hotspot.

The weekend begins with a delicious, locally sourced dinner and concludes with the opportunity for an ecumenical worship service and lunch on Sunday.

Starting at \$499 for an individual, or \$749 for a couple, your registration includes programming, meals, and lodging.

**FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP COMMISSION**

***Wouldn't You Like to be a Member of CPC?***

Periodically, the Membership Commission reviews the attendee rolls, identifying those faithful attendees who might consider becoming members. If approached, why not consider saying "Yes!" You will not be disappointed. Thank you.

**NOW IS A VERY EXCITING TIME AT THE CHURCH AND TIME TO think about joining our SESSION, BOARD OF DEACONS, AND USHERS FOR 2023.**

The year is winding down, and it's time we start planning for our 2023 incoming elders and deacons.

As you may remember, due to COVID, Presbytery had extended the terms of all our elders and deacons for the past two years. Well, we're at the end of that 2-year mark, and we will need fresh bodies to assume the roles of leaders of the Church.

Please remember that our Church is here for its people, locally and globally, and we need volunteers at the helm to continue to stay afloat and stay on course spreading the word of God and helping those in need, including ourselves!

CPC is 'run' by our Session with major assistance by our Board of Deacons. If there are no bodies on 'Session', and no assisting bodies on our Board of Deacons, then there will be no bodies to 'run' the Church, which might eventually mean no Church at all!

Church is **NOT** a one-hour-per-Sunday commitment. It is a 24/7 commitment to God and your fellow worshipers. NONE of the positions open are THAT taxing. Will they take up a bit of you time? Yes, the answer is yes. Will they take up ALL of your time? The majority of your time? Make you miss out on important parties and events with your friends and family? The answer is a gleeful 'NO!'

Our Deacons meet as a Board one time per month for approximately 2 hours; our Session meets also one time per month also for approximately 2 hours. Our Commissions vary in degree according to their 'presence' in the Church. Occasions will arise when certain committees or commissions are taxed upon more than others, and that's when we, CPC, shine! There is ALWAYS others helping and guiding you...whether it be physically or mentally.... the Pastor, the office, other members of Session or our Board of Deacons, or members and friends of our congregation! We work together, all of us, for the greater good.

Please, step out of your comfort zone all in the name of God and for the continuation of CPC! Approach one of our Deacons or Session Elders and let them know you're throwing your hat into the 'halo', um, I mean 'ring.' Get involved! Make a difference! Become a voice of the people and help us take CPC to a new level!

Please also consider joining our **Usher Team** and / or serving as a **Communion volunteer!** Bobbie Zimmerman-Lewis heads both committees and we're sure she'd love to add a few new faces to both groups. Please give her a call at 917-968-5600 if you'd like to join for 2023 or if you have any questions. Please remember, many hands make light work!

Please, pray about how YOU might be called to serve the church through either our Session or Board of Deacons. Every single one of us has been given gifts for ministry to share and to exercise – like muscles! Help is needed in all aspects of our life together as a community of faith, from lending a hand to our property commission, to encouraging and delivering food pantry donations, to planning worship.

Please join in praying for volunteers to step up to the joyful task of serving the Lord through this congregation. Your thoughts, suggestions and questions are most welcome.



**2023 DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS AND FRIENDS** - Barbara will soon be starting to collect information for the 2023 Members & Friends Directory. If you have any changes to your listing as it appeared in the 2022 Directory, please let Barbara know. Changes would include different telephone numbers, email addresses, additions to your family, a new address, etc. You can call her at 516.378.7761 or email her at [cpcmerrick@optonline.net](mailto:cpcmerrick@optonline.net).

The new directories are usually issued in January, but it's never too early for her to start preparing! Thank you as always for your cooperation in keeping our members and friends' data current!

## SEPTEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesd	Wednesday	Thursd	Friday	Saturday
<b>WELCOME BACK, EVERYONE!!</b>				<b>1</b> NA 7:30-9pm	<b>2</b> AA 6:45-9pm	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9am Worship Service; Rev. Moira in the pulpit; <b>Communion</b> ; <b>Usher Team #2</b> (Fran, Amanda and Charlies III); <b>Children will worship with the families in the sanctuary - No Sunday School yet</b> ; <b>Coffee Hour</b> ; PHC 11:30a-2:30p; NASC 1-6pm	<b>5</b> LABOR DAY!!!  (OFFICE CLOSED)	<b>6</b>  AA 7:30-9pm	<b>7</b>  12:30PM Bible Study	<b>8</b>  NA 7:30-9pm	<b>9</b>  AA 6:45-9pm	<b>10</b>  10am Women's Fellowship Breakfast at Fran's house!
<b>11</b> WELCOME BACK / RALLY DAY & PATRIOT'S DAY (9/11 Sunrise Memorial at Point Lookout from 7:30am-9am - courtesy of the Town of Hempstead)  9am Worship; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; <b>Usher Team #3</b> (Frank Kost, Joseph Nelson, & Joe Schuessler); <b>No Sunday School Yet</b> ; <b>Special Enhanced Coffee Hour</b> ; PHC 11:30a-2:30p & 4p-6:30p		<b>13</b>  AA 7:30-9pm	<b>14</b>  12:30PM Bible Study	<b>15</b>  Tower Chimes articles due  7pm Session meeting  NA 7:30-9pm	<b>16</b>  AA 6:45-9pm	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9a Worship; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; <b>Usher Team #4</b> (Mona, Pat and Vinny); <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS</b> ; <b>Minute for Mission</b> ; PHC 11:30a-2:30p	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  AA 7:30-9pm	<b>21</b> Int'l Day of Peace  12:30PM Bible Study	<b>22</b>  NA 7:30-9pm	<b>23</b>  AA 6:45-9pm	<b>24</b> Stated meeting of Presbytery; <b>7-11pm 'Night of Praise Concert'</b> in Valley Stream
<b>25</b> 9am Worship; Pastor Moira in the pulpit; <b>Usher Team #5</b> (Joe A., Jordana and Marissa); <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b> ; <b>Minute for Mission</b> ; PHC 11:30a-2:30p & 4p-6:30p	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  AA 7:30-9pm	<b>28</b>  12:30PM Bible Study	<b>29</b>  NA 7:30-9pm	<b>30</b>  AA 6:45-9pm	<b>Oct. 1</b>  

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2: World Communion Sunday with the Peace and Global Witness Offering (OVER)**



POWERHOUSE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST  
&  
VALLEY STREAM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# NIGHT *of* Praise CONCERT

**Sept. 24, 2022**

**7:00PM - 11:00PM**

**A. J. Hendricks Park  
(Swimming Pool Parking Lot)**

**123. W. Merrick Road**

**Valley Stream, NY 11580**

located Between: Fletcher & Franklin Avenue

**[powerhousecogicli@outlook.com](mailto:powerhousecogicli@outlook.com)**

**CPC, The First Presbyterian Church of Freeport, and the Peace Presbyterian Korean Church have all been invited by the Powerhouse Church of God to join in their concert. If you would like to sing in one of the choirs that evening, please call the CPC office.**