

**First Presbyterian Church
of Mahopac
March 2020 Mini- Newsletter**



(Photo: Kathy Cinquina)

CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION:

Rev. Casey Carbone, Pastor
pastorcaseycarbone@gmail.com
(862) 354-1532
Tuesdays & Thursdays (please call for an appointment)

Kathy Cinquina, Church Secretary
presby411@verizon.net
(845) 628-2365

Midweek Musing

by Rev. Casey Carbone

So this past Sunday, we held our first virtual worship experience. Even though we were not able to gather in person, I enjoyed very much being able to see you all in the chat and share your prayer requests and passing the peace.

As we continue to find ways to nurture fellowship amid social distancing, I've been thinking about how we might stay connected:

- **A virtual "game" night. I have some party games via the computer that would be age-appropriate.**
- **Phone calls/texts - I've been periodically texting or calling just to let you know I'm keeping you in prayer and checking in. So if you get an (862) number, that's me and not spam.**
- **Walk? We talked about walking before, but we may be able to do it now if we keep the appropriate distance. We could even do it in the church parking lot!**
- **Porch conversations. I'm willing to come and visit, but I would prefer that we do it outside and keep the recommended 6 ft distance.**
- **Midweek Prayer - I'll be doing a midweek prayer/check virtually in on Wed's at 6:30 pm. We can share things that have been going on and how we might help one another.**
- **Phone calls/texts - This time, it's you, though. Don't forget to call or text, fellow members, friends, family, etc. This will be a lonely time for some, but we can help make others feel connected!**

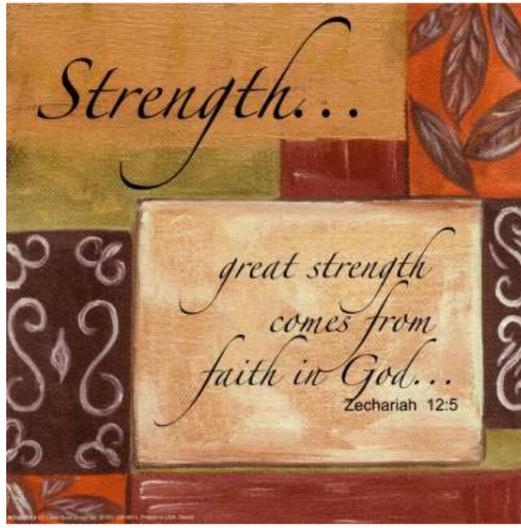
If you can think of anything else please feel free to share, especially if it is something that you might be willing to help facilitate.

Also if you are musician and want to record a video or sound of yourself playing a hymn or other type of religious music I would love to use it in our live-stream! Perhaps we can find new ways to share our gifts and talents.

Thank you all again and hope that as we journey in the wilderness together. May you always feel God's grace and presence!

**Grace and peace,
Rev. Casey Carbone**

What Have We Been Up To?



During this far-reaching unpredictable time, Rev. Casey, Session, the Deacons and Church Staff have been very active in trying to maintain a sense of normalcy here at church. Every effort is being made to keep the congregation and our community of friends in the loop as things move forward and sometimes have to change.

To this end:

- **Virtual Church Worship**- until the end of March (where it will be reassessed based on what is going on).
 - To join in on the church service:
 - [www.Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchMahopac)- search for "FirstPresbyterianChurchMahopac"
 - YouTube- search and subscribe to: "FirstPresbyterianChurchMahopac"
 - No internet access? You can conference in by dialing: [\(425\) 436-6377](tel:4254366377). When prompted enter the access code [304142](https://www.304142.com) followed by the # sign

What Have We Been Up To? (cont'd)

- **Midweek Prayer-**
 - **Join us on Wednesdays at 6:30pm (using the same methods as written above). Rev. Casey will offer a midweek devotion, a time of prayer, and a time for people to share what is going on in their lives.**

- **Weekly Prayer List/Updates-**
 - **In lieu of printed bulletins , the church secretary (Kathy) will send the congregation updated prayer lists each week- ahead of the virtual Sunday Church Service. Please review your requests and send in updates and changes so that the list is as accurate as possible.**

- **Weekly Giving-**
 - **To the extent you are financially able to do so, regular giving is requested (instead of waiting to catch up when physical services resume) to ensure the church has the cash flow necessary to meet its financial obligations. To that end, we have provided below information to help facilitate giving to the church, no collection plate needed!**
 - **Electronic Giving**
The church is currently able to receive pledges, general donations, Deacons' Fund contributions and any other designated gift through PayPal, accessible through www.mahopacchurch.org (the church website) at the (Give) link at the upper right of the page.

 - **Giving by Mail**
If you prefer to give by mail, using a check is strongly recommended for your security. Mail to: First Presbyterian Church, 411 Route 6N, Mahopac, NY 10541. Attn: Elizabeth Narcissi



What Have We Been Up To? (cont'd)

- Deacons-

- The Deacons each have assigned groups of members they are responsible for. Calls and e-mails (using whatever information is available) have been made of late to make sure that recent changes to church life have been made known as widely as possible.

Your Deacon is there to help you- so if anything is needed during this time, please make sure to let your Deacon know! If you do not know who your Deacon is, please contact Kathy at presby411@verizon.net or at (845) 628-2365.



FRIENDSHIP
★ is the comfort that ★
comes from knowing that even
when you feel all alone, you aren't.
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Meet a Friend:

(Sue and Bill Morris- photo submitted by Sue)



Name? Susan Morris

Birthplace? Bronx, NY

How long have you lived in Mahopac? I have lived in Mahopac since Jan. 1983.

Favorite color (s) and why? I love different shades of blue and also turquoise. I find these colors very calming and tranquil.

What is your occupation, and what is your favorite thing about your career? I was an early childhood teacher for 31 years. I taught Kindergarten, pre-K, and 1st grade ESL for 4 years. I loved seeing how children changed from when they started in September to when they left in June. This was always so rewarding. I am now retired and enjoying my free time to do whatever!

What did you want to be when you were small? From the time I was very young, I always saw myself as a teacher.

Are you an introvert or an extrovert? I think I am more of an introvert. I was very shy as a kid and as I grew older, I pushed myself to be more outgoing and to speak up for myself.

What is the best gift you have been given? I enjoy helping others, giving of my time. Helped paint many rooms and help others with gardening.

Who is the most intelligent person you know? My step daughter is very bright, she went to Harvard, Harvard Med School and is a nephrologist at Columbia. Very accomplished, but remains unassuming.

What is the most interesting thing you see outside of your office or kitchen window? I have a huge kitchen window and look out onto a beautiful garden where I enjoy looking at beautiful flowers and plants, and the animals that come onto our property.

What does Stewardship mean to you?

To me, stewardship is an act of gratitude - each of us is granted the blessings of our "church on the hill" and our "family of faith" for a time that can be a single visit, months, years, or in some cases, decades! During that time, we are charged with honoring those blessings through responsible behaviors that will preserve and lift up the goodness and power of our congregation and sanctuary for the future.

Stewardship takes many forms - as the church treasurer, I am all too familiar with the reality that the church, like any other institution, requires a basic level of funding in order to ensure that our facilities are kept in good order and that we have the materials and personnel that we need to deliver inspired programming and a place of trust in which the development and growth of personal relationships with God can flourish. In addition to money, the church requires wise oversight, from the Session and Deacons to all the important committees that take care of details and facilitate outreach programs.

The church also needs participation, enthusiasm and creativity from all of its members. Stewardship is all of this and more - it is everything it takes to carry the church (and all of us, its congregants) into the next decade and beyond. The church is there for us, and so we need to do our best to do what we can, while we can, to do our part to provide the church with the wisdom, vitality and resources it needs to be responsive to the word of God and the responsibilities we carry as a community of faith in a diverse and dynamic world.

-Kevin Muller



"I don't know the way to go,"
I told the Lord, today.
He answered, "That's the problem,
you keep trying to find your way.
My thoughts are different
than your thoughts,
My ways are higher too.
So you just need to take my hand.
I'll see you safely through."

Anne Peterson

www.annepeterson.com