

August 2026



First Pres. Press

FROM THE PASTOR



PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor Garrett is available in-person at the church Mon, Tue and Wed 9:30 - 12:30 or by appointment.

CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD



See details in the Mission & Social Justice section below about the summer challenge for Blessings in a Backpack.

Join the Deacons for our annual church picnic

August 8, 2026

3 - 6 p.m.

Clay Park Henryclay Pavillion

Please use entrance from Henry Clay blvd!

Hamburgers & hotdogs will be provided by the deacons.

Bring your favorite dish to share!

Sign up in the back of the sanctuary





FROM DAVID and STEVE...

Choir Rehearsals will begin
on Thursday, 3, September
at 7.30 in the Choir Room

Our first Sunday is the 13th

Returning Members

Former Members

New Members

Are Welcome

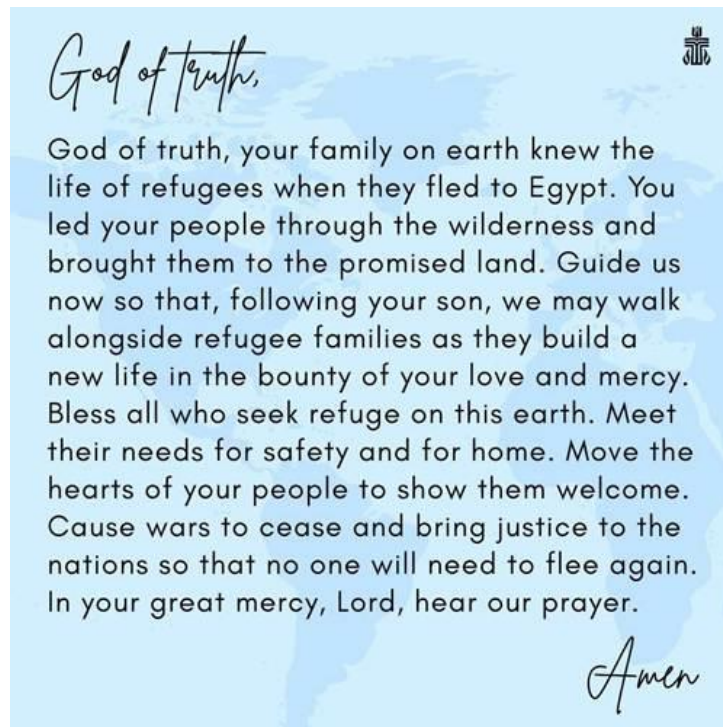
The Joint Social Justice Committee of Susquehanna Valley and Cayuga-Syracuse Presbyteries is asking all churches in our presbyteries to set aside part of the worship service this Sunday, July 26, to address through prayer the significant increase of ICE activity in our communities and brutal treatment of ICE detainees.

We hope the following is helpful for your worship bulletin, weekly email notes to church members and friends, church Facebook and August newsletter. We offer a variety of resources in the hope that one or more of the following will be useful now and in the near future.

Grace and Peace, Bruce Gillette & Monica Styron, Co-Moderators of the Joint Social Justice Committee of Susquehanna Valley and Cayuga-Syracuse Presbyteries

Last week Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Blog did a posting titled [“The Danger of the Supreme Court’s Decision on Temporary Protection Status.”](#)

The Presbyterian Church (USA) posted this prayer on its Facebook this week:



[Biblical References to Immigrants and Refugees](#) by the United Church of Christ is a helpful list.

The PCUSA’s Book of Common Worship (2018) includes this creed:

THE IMMIGRANTS CREED

I believe in Almighty God, who guided the people in exile and in exodus, the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon, the God of foreigners and immigrants.

I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean, who was born away from his people and his home, who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger. When he returned to his own country he suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power. Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured, and unjustly condemned to death. But on the third day Jesus rose from the dead, not as a scorned foreigner but to offer us citizenship in God's kingdom.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us, who speaks all languages, lives in all countries, and reunites all races.

I believe that the Church is the secure home for foreigners and for all believers.

I believe that the communion of saints begins when we embrace all God's people in all their diversity.
I believe in forgiveness, which makes us all equal before God, and in reconciliation, which heals our brokenness.

I believe that in the Resurrection God will unite us as one people in which all are distinct and all are alike at the same time.

I believe in life eternal, in which no one will be foreigner but all will be citizens of the kingdom where God reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Presbyterian Pastor Carolyn Winfrey Gillette has worked with churches over the years to host immigrants from Ghana, Afghanistan, and Latin America. She has written [some 30 hymns about immigrants, all to well-known tunes](#) and gives permission for their free use. Here are some of the most popular ones. They can be sung by the whole congregation, by a choir, by a soloist, or read (hymns are prayers) See also the Hymn Society of the United States and Canada's [Singing Welcome \(downloadable collection of hymns for immigrants and refugees\)](#)

[Abraham Journeyed to a New Country](#)

BUNESSAN 5.5.5.4 D ("Morning Has Broken")

This hymn has been sung widely, including as part of the World Council of Churches' Ecumenical Prayer Cycle. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops also shared it.

[God, Bless the Immigrants](#)

FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10 ("Great Is Thy Faithfulness")

This hymn celebrates the diverse ways that immigrants are blessings to our country.

[O God, You Give Us Neighbors](#)

AURELIA 7.6.7.6 D ("The Church's One Foundation")

The hymn relates Jesus' love command to loving our neighbors today.

[Now They Are Gone](#)

O WALY WALY 8.8.8.8 ("Though I May Speak")

This hymn is a prayer for immigrants who are in ICE detention and deported.

Your Little Ones are Suffering

PASSION CHORALE 7.6.7.6 D ("O Sacred Head, Now Wounded")

"It's an honor that the photo inspired something so beautiful. Thank you so very much..." This was the message from four-time Pulitzer Prize recipient Carol Guzy in response to the request from hymn writer Carolyn Winfrey Gillette to share Guzy's powerful photo that had led her to write a new hymn-prayer. The photo is posted on the hymn webpage.

Beyond Prayer: Volunteers are needed to help immigrants in many ways:

Befriend them and

- 1) Be informed on issues related to immigrants; read ["Guide to Migration Worldwide and in the United States"](#) by Presbyterian Migration Accompaniment Ministries
- 2) Contact Congress to encourage just immigration policies.
- 3) Encourage lawyers to be trained in immigration law and volunteer their services (there is a desperate need for lawyers)
- 4) Participate in protests
- 5) Write letters to the editor in newspapers in support of immigrants
- 6) Host a speaker on immigrants for your church and community.
- 7) Provide food for immigrants who are fearful to leave their homes*
- 8) Be foster parents for immigrant children who are US citizens whose parents have been detained or deported.*
- 9) Pray daily for immigrants, their families, and everyone seeking to help them.

For some of this special volunteer work, a referral from your pastor, special training, and background checks are needed.

NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Thank You LFPC, New Line Jazz Orchestra and our Liverpool Community!

Our Jazz for a Cause fundraiser for Blessings in a Backpack on July 26 was a success! We've received over \$1500 so far (online donations via the QR code are not yet tabulated) and 875 food items. Fantastic!

Thank you to the Outreach Committee - Jessica Gorman, Bill Newell, Liz Wavle-Brown; Mission & Social Justice co-chairs Karen Fay, Tracie Folley, and our Admin Lisa Bricault for all of the help planning, scheduling, promoting and so much more for this event. Special thanks to all of our volunteers who worked before, during and after the concert as well: Karen Bloom, Linda Breckheimer, Tim Bricault, Debbie Cangemi, Lynda Fauler, Tim Fay, Pierre Nzuah, Bonnie & Rob Santos, Fletcher & Julie Smith and to all of you who offered your food and financial donations.



**BLESSINGS IN A
BACKPACK**

Donations of food and funds are accepted year round

Any amount donated will help reduce child hunger in the
Liverpool community

QR code (☒ Back Pack)

Cash

Check made out to:

Blessings in a Backpack
Liverpool Chapter 1854



BiB programs provide a minimum of six items in every bag sent home: 2 breakfast items, 2 snacks, and 2 entrees. Foods are shelf stable, kid-friendly (i.e., pop-top cans), and easy to prepare.

If you'd like to donate food, items accepted by Liverpool Blessings in a Backpack include:

- ready-to-serve soups (with pop tops)
- canned pasta (with pop tops)
- tuna pouches
- mac and cheese cups
- instant oatmeal (packets)
- fruit juice boxes
- fruit and grain bars (no nuts)
- pudding or fruit cups

NEWS FROM THE DEACONS



Prayer requests for the prayer chain?
Contact Leigh Anne Herd at laherd02@gmail.com or 315-727-0178



The LFPC Deacons will be doing Nametag Sundays on the first Sunday of each month.
See a Deacon upon arrival for your nametag.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CLERK

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LFPC SESSION MEETING

The next Session meeting will be August 3, 2026

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE STATED MEETING OF THE PRESBYTERY OF CAYUGA-SYRACUSE

Additional details about the meeting and other information about the presbytery can be found in the weekly presbytery e-newsletter *Presbytery Matters*. Go to their website cayugasyracuse.org and click on the Resources tab.

MISSIONS



Blessings in a Backpack

Join the summer challenge to collect items to feed

Liverpool Elementary School children for the upcoming school year

Collections will include: oatmeal packets, cans of ready to serve soup and Chef Boyardee pastas (in ready to serve cans), mac and cheese cups, fruit & grain bars (NO NUTS), tuna packets, fruit cups, applesauce or pudding cups, 100% juice box or pouches, or monetary donations with checks made out to ***Blessings in a Backpack Chapter 1854***.

The **Blessings in a Backpack** program is a national nonprofit program that works with local chapters to provide food during the school year to children in need.

If you have any questions regarding the above, or would like to volunteer to help pack, please contact Karen Fay at fimtay@gmail.com or talk to me during Fellowship Hour on Sunday mornings.

Isaiah's Table Little Pantry	Needs include ready-to-eat items (pop-top cans or pouches), cereal, pasta, cereal bars, bar soap, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, or a monetary donation made out to: "Isaiah's Table"
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The following items are being accepted for ongoing needs for families:

Diapers (any size)
Baby wipes



Any questions, contact the church office (315) 457-3161 or office@liverpoolfirstpres.org
Donations can be dropped off in the foyer during office hours and on Sunday before worship services.

FELLOWSHIP AND STUDY GROUPS

Join a Fellowship/Study Group

Craft & Chat Group - 6:30pm	1st & 3rd Mondays
Fathers~Brothers~Sons - 6:30pm	1st & 3rd Tuesdays - resumes in the fall
Becoming Faithful Followers (BFF) - 6:30pm	2nd & 4th Wednesdays - resumes Sept 9
Manuscript Study - 1:30pm	1 st & 4 th Thursdays - resumes in the fall
Elsie O'Neil Circle - 12:30pm	2nd Thursday - resumes Sept 10
Choir - 7:00pm	Thursdays – resumes Sept 3

Contact church office for more information

Craft & Chat!



Join a group of friends to craft & chat together. We gather on Mondays on the 1st & 3rd week from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the LFPC library.

Whether you crochet, knit, make cards, draw, sew or any other craft you are welcome to join. Even if you don't craft, just come to chat. This is a casual gathering to share craft ideas, enjoy conversation with others and make new friends.

The gatherings will be August 3 & August 17. Please join us and feel free to bring a friend to the next gathering!!

Contact Lisa Bricault with any questions.



Fathers • Brothers • Sons
is a new kind of men's gathering for a new day
We will meet on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Resuming in the fall
6:30-8pm at LFPC.
Come and join the community!

together in faith • circle of trust • shoulder to shoulder • present in the moment



2nd & 4th Wednesdays
6:30 – 7:45 pm
Fellowship Hall

September 9 – November 11, 2026
The Things That Make for Peace

This 5-session study of the things that make for peace has the goal for participants to compare and contrast cultural, political, and biblical definitions of peace. We will explore what is important to know, what this means for our lives and what we are called to do.

To sign up for this study, contact Linda Hook at hookdonzumba@gmail.com
Global Peacemaking Sunday is September 20

Manuscript Study

This study will resume in the fall



ELSIE O'NEILL/WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION

We warmly invite all women of the church to join our Circle — a place where friendship, faith, and fellowship come together. We meet monthly on the **second Thursday at 12:30 PM** in the **Fellowship Hall**. We'll be meeting next on **SEPTEMBER 10, 2026**, and we hope to welcome our faithful friends *and* many fabulous new faces!

Each month, we gather with brown-bag lunches and enjoy a delicious dessert provided by our members. Our time together includes updates on church life, meaningful service projects, and a light Bible study that often sparks rich and heartfelt conversation. Through laughter, learning, and shared prayer, we find strength and support in one another.

Whether you're looking for spiritual encouragement, new friendships, or simply a welcoming space to connect, the Elsie O'Neil Circle is here for you.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Our Elsie O'Neil Circle wrapped up another wonderful year with an end-of-year celebration filled with delicious food, laughter, games, and warm fellowship. We are grateful for the friendships we share and look forward to gathering again in September.

Warm wishes,
Coleen Clapper, Chair

LFPC LIBRARY

If you are looking for stories, DVD's or other information, remember to check our online church library website: librarycat.org/lib/firstpres1829_Type in any search phrase you like. An advanced search is available, just click on the arrow to the right of the search box.

*Please note: We do not have electronic sign outs. Therefore, each item will say available. The only way to check if an item is available is to look for it in the library. Each item has a sign out card. Please fill out and leave in the tray next to the first door to the library.

Any questions, please contact Liz Wavle-Brown (ewavlebrown@proton.me)

CHURCH FAMILY BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST

1 – Maryellen Hemstreet-Smith, Amelia Paul
4 – Lauren Gallagher
5 – Grace Gouger
6 – Jack Raitt, Shelli Carlisle
7 – Judy Alderman, Lindsey Sanborn
9 – Carol Jerosé
14 – Tom Paul
15 – Doug VanHoute
16 – Billy Shipman
20 – Madison Folley, Louise Pelotte
21 – David Byrne, Tracie Folley
25 – Ben Miles
26 – Kerri Byrne
30 – Beth Calnon, Emma VanHoute

(if anyone has been omitted from this list, please contact the church office)



GIVE TO LFPC



If you are able, please **continue make your regular financial offering** to the church by mailing your check to Treasurer, Liverpool First Presbyterian Church, 603 Tulip Street, Liverpool NY 13088 or on our website at: <https://liverpoolfirstpres.org/give> or download the mobile app “Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement”

Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse E-News

Our goal is to highlight things going on throughout the Church: within our Presbytery, in our congregations, as well as in the Synod of the Northeast and across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

To subscribe see: <http://cayugasyracuse.org>

The **September 2026 Newsletter Deadline** is **Monday, Aug 24 by 12 noon**.

Please get all articles and pictures into the church office by the deadline. You may call the office at 315-457-3161 or email office@liverpoolfirstpres.org

