

June 2026



First Pres. Press

FROM THE PASTOR

The Power of Yes

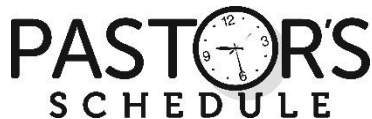
I am a habitual "No"-er. When presented with a request or a possibility my first reaction is some form of "I don't think that's what I want to do." It protects my time and energy but it also limits my experience of life. I've worked over the years to catch myself saying No and really inquire about why not say Yes. 1 Corinthians 1:20 is a beautiful expression of how God says Yes to us, "in Christ all God's promises are Yes." Sometimes the No is a protection against disappointment....what if I hope too much and it doesn't come true, trust too much and get hurt, give too much and find out my own lack.

What I've experienced when I say Yes instead of No is the abundance which Jesus has come to bring us: more life, more joy, more connection (which sometimes includes sorrow and other things I don't prefer), more of a sense of myself in Christ.

This doesn't mean I say Yes to everything. When I opened the website that hosts this newsletter it asked if would complete a survey to help them be better....I said No as I do to most survey inquiries. Saying Yes helps me to say No with more confidence and clarity because I have a better sense of what is uniquely mine to do.

This summer say Yes to something that you might ordinarily say No to. (Not an online survey....but...maybe.) Something challenging, something you might not be good at, something that is scary, something that you feel will deplete you but might just be a source of life-giving and surprising grace.

Pastor Garrett



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

WORSHIP



Faith Class Reminder:

The last Faith Class for the 2025-2026 year will be held on June 14th. Younger students will meet with Pierre and Jason during worship and older students will meet with Bill and Rich during fellowship hour.

CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD



Sunday Nursery Care UPDATE

Mavrick Breckheimer has been hired as the Nursery Caregiver Coordinator. Mavrick is an experienced counselor at Camp Talooli which will help him offer good care and activities to our youngest church attendees.

Thank
You!



"My heartfelt thanks to all of you who helped make my recent birthday so special! I am truly blessed to be part of this loving church family!"

Karen Fay

Firepit



Friday

The Herds invite you to a **Firepit Friday** on **June 5 at 6:30 pm.** til whenever! Bring a chair (first 6 will be guaranteed a chair!), your own beverage and if desired a snack to share. We will provide the fire and marshmallows! Best to debug yourselves as well!

SAVE THE DATE!!

Join the Deacons for LFPC Annual Church Picnic
August 8, 2026
more details to follow next month



Welcome New Piano Number 2

In the fall, we were donated a baby grand piano that was installed in our sanctuary. It was a serviceable piano and provided much improved sound and volume to our sanctuary. Recently, Coleen and Paul Clapper's son, Ryan, took a new position in Sacramento, CA and wanted to find a loving home for hi Mason and Hamlin baby grand piano. It was recommended to the session by the Worship and Music Committee to replace New Piano Number 1 with Ryan's piano as the quality in craftsmanship and sound is far superior. Session approved this replacement, a home was found for the first piano at a local church and we are now enjoying the rich and beautiful sound of Ryan's piano. Thank you, Ryan!



The Choir will be on hiatus for the summer. This means that a number of services from July to September will need help with Anthems. We invite anyone interested in providing an Anthem during the Summer to see Steve. Remember, it doesn't have to be a sung anthem. We welcome instrumental pieces, small vocal or instrumental ensembles (remember the I Believe ladies, from last summer!), or any workable combination you might have in mind that Steve can coordinate.



The Liverpool Community Chorus

June 6, 2026

7:00 PM

doors open at 6:30

Liverpool High School Auditorium

Adults - \$12 ~ Seniors & Students - &10 ~ 5 & under – free

Karen Bloom, Coleen Clapper, Betsy Payer and Bonnie Santos



Once upon a time, a young man named Jacob, went on a journey to find his purpose in life. He ended up camping under the giant sequoias of California, and after several days of meditation, he felt a calling to connect people to the soil and to food. After many jobs, he landed in Syracuse taking on the job as Executive Director of Salt City Harvest Farm (SCHF) in Kirkville.

On Friday, May 8, members of the Cayuga-Syracuse and the Liverpool First Presbyterian Social Justice Committee met with Jacob Gigler-Caro, and Chittenango Church Elder. Jacob gave a tour of the farm and explained how most of the land is divided in $\frac{1}{8}$ acres. New American farmers with an agricultural background grow foods native to their homeland for a small rental fee. They sell 60% of their crops back to SCHF. 25% of the 60% goes to the CNY Food Bank and the rest is sold at the Regional Market in Shed C.

The SCHF is growing in its mission and in his six years as executive director, Jacob and his staff have also grown their profit margin steadily. The land they use has been donated by the owners of 60 acres. The owners are now preparing to sell the entire 60 acres and SCHF will begin a fundraising campaign to be able to buy the land to grow this mission.

The Social Justice Committee would like to support this enterprising mission, Salt City Harvest Farm, in growing culture, and community alongside the New American Community through the cross-cultural exchange of food traditions with access to farmland, education, and economic opportunities.

1. Pray for the staff and farmers
2. Pray for the board as they set up a fundraising campaign
3. Stop by and visit the farm and see what it is all about.
4. Buy food at the Regional Market from SCHF in Shed C.
5. Volunteer with one of the many committees that support the work of SCHF



Jacob Gigler-Caro, Executive Director of Salt City Harvest Farm

Karen Fay, Tracie Folley, Jacob Gigler-Caro, Rev. Monica Stryon, Pete Owens, Emily Owens, Leigh Anne Herd



NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE



Why don't we offer faith-based events such as Vacation Bible School?

The Christian Education committee has talked about VBS and, for various reasons - including the number of volunteers needed, made the decision that this is not something we can offer at this time.

Additionally, parents need full day camps in the summer. We are not equipped to offer those services.

10 June 2026

NEWS FROM THE DEACONS



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



Starting **June 7, 2026** the **LFPC Deacons** will be starting 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 05/11/2026

- As of May 11, 2026, the loan balance for the new roof is \$43,807. We have received \$44,944 in gifts so far.
- We begin the second year of the Capital Campaign for the roof loan this month (June 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



As part of the partnering rotation for the month of June, we are asked to collect:

Pudding Cups (any brand or variety)

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.

The Liverpool Chapter of **Blessings in a Backpack** is now feeding students in all the elementary schools in the Liverpool School district! Every week during the school year, each of these students receive food for the week-end- two breakfast items, two lunch items and two snacks. A group from our church helps to pack the meals on the second Wednesday of the month during morning hours.

Those wishing to make monetary donations to support the program can write a check to “Blessings in a Backpack” and write “**Liverpool NY Chapter 1854**” on the memo line. Checks should be sent to Blessings in a Backpack, Liverpool Chapter 1854, PO Box 52, Liverpool, NY 13088. 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	Needs include ready-to-eat items (pop-top cans or pouches), cereal, pasta, cereal bars, bar
Little Pantry	soap, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, or a monetary donation made out to: “Isaiah's Table”

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
Becoming Faithful Followers (BFF) - 6:30pm	2nd & 4th Wednesdays (ends June 24 until fall) resumes in the fall
Manuscript Study - 1:30pm	2nd Thursday (ends June 11 until fall) Thursdays (ends June 18 until fall)
Elsie O'Neil Circle - 12:30pm	
Choir - 7:00pm	

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 June 1 & June 15. 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 June 2 & June 16
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

We're watching The Faithful: Women of the Bible
6:30 – 8:00 PM with discussion 8:00 – 8:30 PM
June 10 - Rebekah
June 24 – Rachel & Leah

Note the time change for these meetings.
Snacks will be available

No meetings in July and August

L. Hook, Facilitator

Manuscript Study

This study will resume in the fall



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

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 **June 11, 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.

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 Sue Kline at skline51@gmail.com

CHURCH FAMILY BIRTHDAYS

June

2 – Debbie Copp
9 – Frank DeGroff
12 – John Kline
14 – Marianne VanHoute
15 – Fletcher Smith
16 – Matt Shipman
19 – Christina, Elizabeth, Julia DeGroff
Brittany Holt
22 – David Rudari, Connor Sanderson
23 – Dennis Morris
26 – Ben Kittle
27 – Roberta Marks
28 – Linda Raitt
30 – Audrey Hart, Rev Mary Anderson

(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 **July 2026 Newsletter Deadline** is **Monday, June 22 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

