

September 2026



First Pres. Press

FROM THE PASTOR

Imagination and Change

In caterpillars there are cells in which the butterfly is encoded in the chemical bonds. These are called imaginal cells and they are dormant during the hungry munching stage of the caterpillar. In the chrysalis where the caterpillar dissolves the imaginal cells begin to multiply and form the butterfly who later emerges and brings such great joy to our summer days.



Two truths that the natural world teaches us (if we have eyes to see and ears to hear) from this life cycle are particularly important in this time in which both culture and creation seem to be dissolving.

In the chrysalis the caterpillar's immune system fights the awakening imaginal cells because it doesn't recognize them as part of itself. As individuals and in the wider culture we resist the change that is coming from within us. The strength of the resistance is saying something about how important this new arising thing is to ongoing life. The caterpillar's resistance to the imaginal cells strengthens the new life being formed. Acknowledging the resistance of the old system validates that what is new is truly a new way of being.



The second truth is that the seeds of change are implanted in us from the very beginning. We are designed to evolve and grow. The Kingdom of God is within you. The Christ that lives in us becomes the life we live. Growth can be disorienting and we don't like it but soon we recognize these seeds as who we really are and the home that are looking for.

Pastor Garrett

PASTOR'S
SCHEDULE

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

CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD



*Thank You
Note*

Thank you for all the prayers offered and the meals brought to us.

The prayers offered to John, Geoffrey, Gerry and Samantha have meant so much - God has blessed the Lipton's and given me strength to care for all in need. I am blessed to call you my FRIENDS.

Dode Lipton



Liverpool Blessings in a Backpack Fall 2026

School is starting soon, and that means the Liverpool Blessings in a Backpack program will be back to work providing weekend meals for elementary school students in the Liverpool Central School district. Each week of the school year, these students receive weekend food: two breakfast items, two lunch items, and two snacks.

Liverpool 1st Presbyterian Church's Blessings in a Backpack Summer Challenge and Jazz for a Cause benefit concert were a huge success! So far over 875 food items have been donated and \$7300 has been given! Thank you for your generosity and for continuing to support this important program!!

In addition to the above, please consider supporting the annual Fill-a-Bus event, which is Blessings in a Backpack's main fundraising effort. This year, the Fill-a-Bus event will take place on Saturday, September 12th at the Route 31 Walmart in Clay from 10 am to 4:30 pm. We are looking for volunteers to help at the event. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary, along with a list of needed food items.

If you have questions about Blessings in a Backpack or the Fill-a-Bus event, please contact Karen Fay at fim-tay@gmail.com (or talk to her during Fellowship Hour on Sunday mornings). Thank you!

BOOK CLUB

Books, Conversation,
& Fellowship



September 17

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
in the Church Library

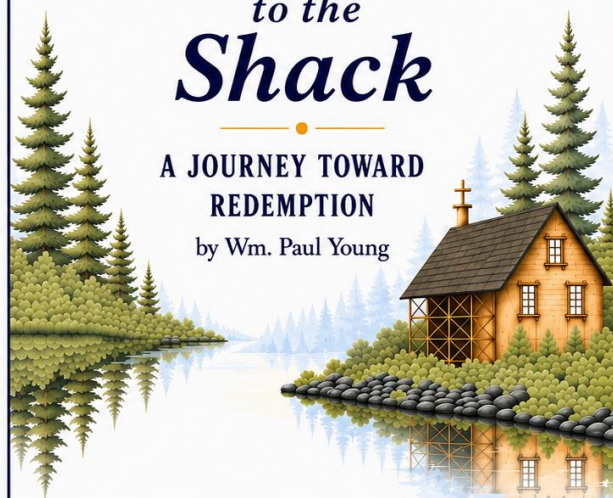
*At our first meeting, we will
plan our reading list for the year!*

NEW IN OCTOBER

Return to the Shack

A JOURNEY TOWARD
REDEMPTION

by Wm. Paul Young



GOOD BOOKS



GREAT CONVERSATIONS



GROWING IN FAITH

Syracuse ecumenical youth gatherings for junior and senior high youth

**Faith Impact Team**
Advocacy and Service

**SAFE CHURCH**
Safe Communities

UPCOMING GATHERINGS

**SUN
SEPT
20**

DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE
GATHER + FUN + MUSIC + CONVO
6-8 PM | HOSTED BY PEBBLE HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LOCATION: 5299 JAMESVILLE ROAD, DEWITT, NY 13214
PHONE: 315-446-0960

**SUN
OCT.
18**

FALL GATHERING
6-8 PM |
WHERE: MYSTERIOUSLY TBD
COOKING UP A FALL-TASTIC OR SPOOKY SHINDIG FOR OUR TEENS!


JOIN OUR STEERING TEAM

CALLING ALL ADULTS AND TEENS! WE NEED YOUR FLAIR TO JAZZ UP OUR GATHERINGS, PICK THE COOLEST SPOTS, CHOOSE AWESOME SERVICE PROJECTS, AND SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OUR YOUTH MISSION FOR CNY.

HELP US CHAMPION THE CAUSE OF A SAFE GATHERING FOR EVERYONE. TEENS, THIS IS YOUR GOLDEN TICKET TO A STANDOUT ON RESUMES AND COLLEGE APPS.

EMAIL: FAITHIMPACTYOUTHONY@GMAIL.COM



5:30 pm Sept 9
University United Methodist Church
324 University Ave

Cost: Free

Free Parking Across the Street

Rick Steves on his 56-minute film: "It's a case study in how fear and angry nationalism can be channeled into evil and how our freedoms and democracies are not indestructible..in fact, they are fragile."

Sponser: Interfaith Racial Equity Network of CNY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE



After one year of service, the ad hoc Outreach Committee has concluded its work. A new Standing Committee, the Community Engagement Committee, was established by Session at its August 3, 2026 meeting.

The purpose of this committee is:

- To promote and support efforts of standing committees at LFPC, i.e., Christian Education, Mission and Social Justice, and Worship and Music;
- To develop and maintain external communications plans;
- To develop and maintain content that promotes the church on our website, social media, and in the local media;
- To develop and maintain an event planning guide;
- To seek new opportunities to engage with local organizations in the community; and
- To seek ongoing understanding of the community's evolving needs.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Co-Chairs Linda Hook, Liz Wavle-Brown; Jessica Gorman, Bill Newell

SAVE THE DATE!

TRUNK OR TREAT!

LOCATION:
LIVERPOOL FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
603 TULIP ST
LIVERPOOL, NY 13088

**HELP MAKE HALLOWEEN MEMORABLE
FOR LOCAL FAMILIES!**

EVENT DATE:
OCTOBER 23, 2026

TIME:
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

★ **HOSTED BY** ★

FRIENDS IN FAITH PRESCHOOL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE



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

August 3, 2026

- Tim Fay was elected as President of Corporation, Bill Newell as Vice-President of Corporation and Leigh Anne Herd as Clerk of Session
- Session is reviewing our investments to align more closely our investments with actions taken by the General Assembly this past June. Recommendations will be made to the Investment Committee (Tom Ogden, Tim Fay, Rick Pelotte, Jack Raitt)
- Approval of following members to teach faith classes in the fall
 - Older elementary/middle school: Bill Newell, Rich Lash
 - Younger elementary: Nikki Hart, Pierre Nzuah
 - Toddler: Leigh Anne Herd
- Blessings in the Backpack mission drive has been very successful
- Liz Wavle-Brown will serve as the librarian in volunteer status with many new ideas!

Elder - Ministry Chairing

Tim Bricault - Fellowship
Tim Fay - B&G, Finance
Tracie Folley - Mission
Leigh Anne Herd - Worship & Music
Linda Hook - Personnel, Comm Engagement
Bill Newell - Liaison to Presbytery
Pierre Nzuah - Serves on B&G, Fellowship
Tom Ogden - Treasurer
Liz Wavle-Brown - Comm Engagement

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



Pudding cups
Mac & Cheese microwave cups
Donations go to Liverpool Elementary Schools

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.

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 NY 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 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:



Feminine Hygiene Items

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

Fathers~Brothers~Sons (early risers) – 8:00am	2 nd Sundays – Starts Sept 13
Craft & Chat Group - 6:30pm	1 st & 3 rd Mondays
Enneagram – 6:30pm	Tuesdays – Starts Sept 15
Becoming Faithful Followers (BFF) - 6:30pm	2 nd & 4 th Wednesdays - resumes Sept 9
Manuscript Study -1:30pm	1 st & 4 th Thursdays - resumes Oct 1
Elsie O'Neil Circle - 12:30pm	2 nd Thursday - resumes Sept 10
Book Club – 1:30pm	3 rd Thursdays - Starts Sept 17
Choir - 7:00pm	Thursdays – resumes Sept 3

Contact church office for more information



Craft & Chat!

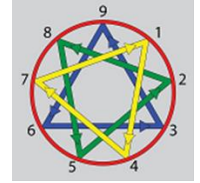
Join a group of friends to craft & chat together. We gather on Mondays on the 1st & 3rd week from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in the LFPC library.

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 September 21 only this month. Please join us and feel free to bring a friend to the next gathering!!

Contact Lisa Bricault with any questions.

Enneagram Class
Tuesdays
6:30 – 8 pm
(Sept 15 - Oct 27, no class Oct 13)



- For beginner AND experienced enneagram students
- Understand your gifts and blind spots of personality and how you are more than just it
- Have more compassion and less judgement for others and yourself
- Recognize your habitual responses to life
- Grow in developing a richer knowledge of yourself as a child of God



Fathers • Brothers • Sons
 is a new kind of men's gathering for a new day
 Early Risers will meet on 2nd Sundays at 8:00 am

Starting on September 13
 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 on October 1



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'Neill 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



**NEWS FROM THE
CHURCH LIBRARY**

**THANK YOU,
SUE KLINE!**

At its August 3 meeting, the Session voted to recognize and thank Sue Kline, volunteer Church Librarian, as she steps away from the position.

Thank you, Sue! Your dedicated and faithful commitment has been a wonderful gift to our church family!

**WELCOME,
LIZ WAVLE-BROWN!**

At its August 3 Session meeting, the Session appointed Liz Wavle-Brown as volunteer Church Librarian.

"I look forward to serving our church family in our library ministry."

COMING SOON!

NEW BOOKS | STORY TIME | BOOK CLUB | MAGAZINES | WORKSHOPS

For more information, please contact Liz:

✉ Email: ewavlebrown@proton.me | ☎ Phone: 607-882-0757
or, chat with Liz during Coffee Hour

 **GOOD BOOKS** |  **GREAT CONVERSATIONS** |  **GROWING IN FAITH**

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

SEPTEMBER

1 – Linda Newell
5- Beth Larson
6 – Andrew Carlisle
7 – Karen Bloom
9 – Jamie Paul
10 – Bonnie Santos
12 – Nick Miles
14 – Kayla Overend
17 – Jerry Carges
18 – Carlolyn Ebner, Pat Gallagher
19 – Linda Hook
22 – Natalie Miles, Karyn Johnson
25 – Rob Santos
26 – Brooke Carlisle, Jesse Harris

(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 **October 2026 Newsletter Deadline** is **Monday, Sept 28 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

