

September 2025



# First Pres. Press

## FROM THE PASTOR

### MUSINGS:

As we begin a new program year across many disciplines, it struck me: "Why do we celebrate New Year's on January first?" I suppose that the answer that Tavia, from Fiddler on the Roof, gave is about as good as any – "tradition." January 1st dates back to the Roman Empire and the god Janus, who was the god of beginnings. They named a month in his honor, January, and so the month of beginnings was that month. And January 1st is that day.

Over the years, as Christians began to hold sway, several other days were attempted to supplant the January date, such as Annunciation Day in March or Christmas. Still, for the most part, January 1st has come to be accepted by significant portions of the global population.

On the other hand, in this country, we have a new year that also begins approximately in September. It is then that children go back to school, colleges are officially back up to speed, and church programs that have been on hold for the summer go back to work.

New beginnings are happening here at LFPC as we speak. Pastor Garrett is beginning the serious work of his Sabbatical. Sunday school has started up again, and there is a new guy who will be occupying the pulpit most Sundays until December.

Change is all around us, and with it, new opportunities for discovery and growth. My hope is that you will take advantage of as many of those opportunities as you can. While you are at it, bring a friend or relative along with you so that you can share what you discover.

I look forward to our time together. See you Sunday – or before.

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Scott*

## WORSHIP

### September Worship Schedule

September 7, 2025	Rev. Scott Cupp
September 14, 2025	Elder Linda Hook / Rev. Scott Cupp
September 21, 2025	WE Sunday with Elder Ashley Gouger & Elder Bill Newell
September 28, 2025	Rev. Scott Cupp

## Church Officers

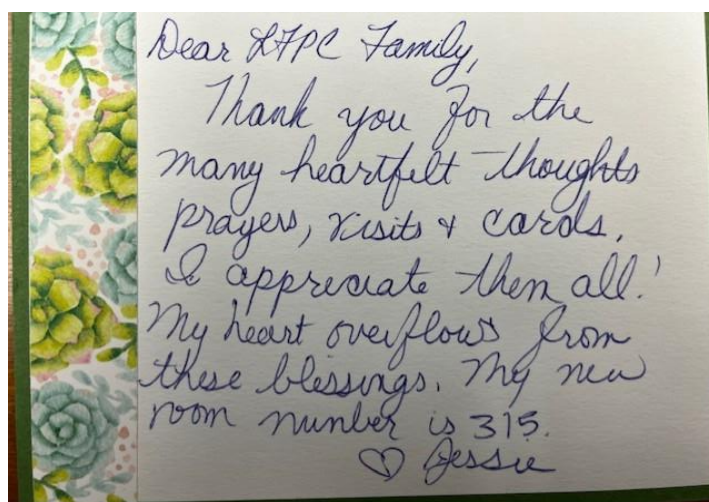
### **The Session**

Rev. Scott Cupp – *Moderator*  
Tim Bricault – *Fellowship*  
Tim Fay – *Buildings and Grounds, Bookkeeper*  
Lynda Fauler – *Stewardship and Finance*  
Tracie Folley – *Mission, Director of FIFCPS*  
Ashley Gouger – *Faith Formation Coordinator*  
Leigh Anne Herd – *Clerk of Session pro tem, Worship, Prayer Ministry*  
Linda Hook – *Personnel*  
Bill Newell – *Christian Education, liaison with Presbytery*  
Tom Ogden – *Treasurer, Buildings and Grounds, Stewardship*

### **Board of Deacons**

Brittany Holt – *Moderator & Fellowship*  
Linda Breckheimer – *Birthday Cards*  
Karen Bloom – *Kitchen Ministry & Birthday Cards*  
Ruth Crissman – *Missions & Fellowship*  
Jessica Gorman – *Missions & Communion/Worship*  
Diana Marocco – *Shut ins & Home Communion*  
Pierre Nzuah – *Fellowship*  
Bonnie Santos – *Communion/Worship*  
Fletcher Smith – *Treasurer, Missions & Fellowship*  
Marianne VanHoute – *Communion/Worship & Fellowship*  
Sue Woodworth – *Fellowship & Note Taker*  
John Woodworth –

## CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD



### **Liverpool Blessings in a Backpack Update- Fall 2025**

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.

During the 2024/2025 school year, the Liverpool Chapter of Blessings in a Backpack provided weekend meals for 250 elementary school students in the Liverpool Central School district. Each week of the school year, these students received weekend food: two breakfasts, two lunches, and two snacks. A group from our church helped to pack the meals on the second Wednesday of the month during the school year.

Food is getting more expensive, and it is estimated that it will cost approximately \$250 per student to provide weekend food during the 2025/2026 school year. To help us meet expenses, the Blessings in a Backpack Board of Directors invites donors to consider a \$250 donation- the cost of sponsoring one child for the school year. (Of course, any amount is appreciated!)

Thank you for continuing to support this important program! Please check the Sunday morning worship bulletin and the church newsletter for information on food to donate. 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.

In addition to the above, you are invited to support the annual Fill-a-Bus event, which is Blessings in a Backpack's main fundraising effort. This year, the Fill-a-Bus event (see below flyer) will take place on September 20th at the Route 31 Walmart in Clay from 10 am to 5 pm.

If you have questions about Blessings in a Backpack, or you would like to help pack or help out at the Fill-a-Bus event, please contact Karen Fay at [fimtay@gmail.com](mailto:fimtay@gmail.com) (or talk to her during Fellowship Hour on Sunday mornings).



*Who will feed the kids this weekend?*

**September 20, 2025**

**10 am to 5 pm**

**Fill – a – Bus**

**Walmart, Rt. 31**

8770 Dell Center Dr, Liverpool, NY 13090

**Foods needed for "Blessings in a Backpack" to feed children in Liverpool over the weekend.**

- 1) Ready-to-serve soups w/easy open lids, e.g. chicken noodle, veg. beef
- 2) Macaroni & cheese microwavable cups – any brand
- 3) Chef Boyardee, all varieties
- 4) Fruit and grain breakfast bars – NO NUTS
- 5) 100% juice box or pouch
- 6) Applesauce cups, any brand
- 7) Fruit cup, any variety or brand

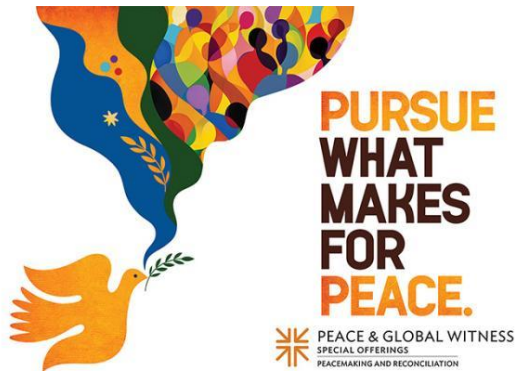
**NEW FOOD**



Early drop off will be any of the four churches in the village. Drop off before September 20th at St. Paul's, St. Matthews, 1st United Methodist or Liverpool First Presbyterian Church all in Liverpool NY. Checks accepted at BIB Liverpool Chapter, P.O. Box 52 Liverpool N.Y. 13088



Blessings in a Backpack Liverpool Chapter 1854  
(315) 479-9912  
Tax identification number for  
Blessings in a Backpack is 26-1964620  
[www.blessingsinabackpack.org](http://www.blessingsinabackpack.org)



## PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS – October 5, 2025

This offering on World Communion Sunday October 5<sup>th</sup>, is one of the special offerings that play an important role in bringing the church together to focus on faith based actions and concerns. Enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing injustice in our community and around the world. 25% of this offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking in our community. Since 1940, World Communion Sunday has been a celebration of our oneness bringing churches together in Christian unity.



Save Your  
Items for Our  
Rummage Sale

**603 Tulip St, Liverpool, NY  
Liverpool First Presbyterian Church**

**October 16 & 17, 2025  
9:00 - 1:30 pm**

### Donation Drop Off:

Tues, Oct 14 - Thur, Oct 16  
9:15 am - 1:00 pm  
and Monday, Wednesday & Thursday  
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

### Accepted Items:

- Men's, Women's, Children's and Infant clothing
- Kitchen Items
- Christmas Items
- Wall Hangings
- Dishware

### NOT Accepted Items:

- Electronics
- Shoes
- Books

There will also be a BAKE SALE during the rummage sale.  
Watch for a signup sheet



## NEWS FROM THE DEACONS



Prayer requests for the prayer chain?  
Contact Leigh Anne Herd at [laherd02@gmail.com](mailto:laherd02@gmail.com) or 315-727-0178

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CLERK

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LFPC SESSION MEETING

08/11/2025

- All ERC (Employee Resource Credit) monies have been received from the IRS as of August 2025.
- Ashley Gouger is working on finding teachers for the younger elementary age children.
- Ashley Gouger, Tim Fay, Linda Hook and Leigh Anne Herd have been approved for giving the message for four worship service this fall.

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

In a ZOOM meeting on August 14 the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse and the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley voted on a proposed job description and compensation package for the Rev. Greg Garis to serve as shared Lead Presbyter for Transformation for both presbyteries. Both presbyteries approved the motion.

In addition, both presbyteries approved a motion to accept a job description and compensation package for an Assistant to the Lead Presbyter for Transformation. The successful candidate will be either a Teaching or Ruling Elder in the PCUSA. The position is 25 hours per week.

[Read Job Description](#)

Interested persons should forward their resume, cover letter and references to [ldaboll1929@gmail.com](mailto:ldaboll1929@gmail.com).

Also, the joint Justice in Ministry and Mission Teams of Cayuga-Syracuse and Susquehanna Valley Presbyteries sponsored a Palestine-GAZA & West Bank History & Update presentation on August 25 at Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church. The recording of this presentation can be viewed at this link.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/KGjd29vMKRI?si=FGcB7lYGf7kYgSkJ>

**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 [cavugasyracuse.org](http://cavugasyracuse.org) and click on the Resources tab.**

## MISSIONS



**Peace & Global Witness - October 5, 2025**

This offering on World Communion Sunday October 5th, is one of the special offerings that play an important role in bringing the church together to focus on faith based actions and concerns. Enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing injustice in our community and around the world. 25% of this offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking in our community. Since 1940, World Communion Sunday has been a celebration of our oneness bringing churches together in Christian unity



## Blessings in a Backpack



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

**100% juice boxes or pouches**

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](mailto:fimtay@gmail.com) or talk to me during Fellowship Hour on Sunday mornings.

<b>Isaiah’s Table Little Pantry</b>	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” <b>Urgent need:</b> women’s deodorant, sunscreen, hand sanitizer, nail clippers.
---	--

The following items are being accepted for ongoing needs for families: (**\*most needed items**)



**Hygiene Items:** soap, shampoo & conditioner, children’s toothbrushes, toothpaste\*, anti-per-spirant/deodorant\*, feminine pads\*, shaving cream.

**Cleaning products:** all-purpose cleaner\*, dishwashing liquid, paper towels, tall kitchen garbage bags, laundry detergent (no pods), sponges ideally with scrubby side

Any questions, contact the church office (315) 457-3161 or [office@liverpoolfirstpres.org](mailto: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 Wed  
Manuscript Study - 1:00pm, 1st & 4th Thursdays  
Elsie O'Neil Circle - 12:30pm, 2nd Thursdays  
Choir - 7:00pm, Thursdays

*resumes Sept 15*  
*resumes Sept 16*  
*resumes Sept 24*  
*resumes Oct 2*  
*resumes Sept 11*  
*resumes Sept 4*

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 starting back on Sept 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 next on Sept 16  
6:30-8pm at LFPC.  
Come and join the community!

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

**Becoming Faithful Followers**  
*Trusting God's Presence, Purpose, Promises*

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays each month**  
**GREEN ROOM (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**  
**6:30-7:45 PM**

**ALL ARE WELCOMED TO JOIN US ON OUR JOURNEY TO BECOMING FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS THROUGH SCRIPTURE, DISCUSSION AND FRIENDSHIP**

Join us when you are able. Learning, conversation and fellowship are available every time we meet.

Linda Hook,  
Facilitator

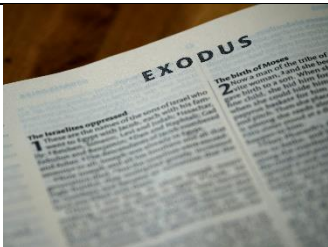
**BFFs resume September 10!**

**SEPT 10:**  
**Social Night and Distribution of Study Guides**

Those who read *Grounded: Finding God in the World-A Spiritual Revolution* by [Diana Butler Bass](#) over the summer can share their thoughts about the book. Diana Butler Bass, leading commentator on religion, politics, and culture, follows up her acclaimed book *Christianity After Religion* by arguing that what appears to be a decline of religion in America actually signals a major transformation in how people understand and experience God.

**SEPT 24 – DEC 10:** (six sessions)  
**Explore the Bible: Joshua Bible Study**  
Book published by Lifeway.

**Want to join us? Please contact Linda Hook.**  
Contact info is in the church directory.



### Manuscript Study

Manuscript Study will begin this fall moving to a new day. We will meet the first and fourth THURSDAYS of the month at 1:00 - 2:30 in the church library beginning September 25.

Manuscript Study is a process of:

1. Reading Scripture without subheadings and verse separations

2. Observing repetitive themes and words, comparisons/contrasts, by highlighting, underlining, making notes and writing questions
3. Discussing observations and recognizing common themes in order to develop a central message
4. Praying for God's wisdom and guidance in applying this central message to our lives today

Our study this year will focus on the book of Exodus. The only supplies needed are a pencil/pen and a Study Bible or a phone for research. If you have questions, please call Leigh Anne Herd.

### **ELSIE O'NEIL/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**. While we're currently on our summer break, we'll resume our regular meetings on **September 11, 2025**, and we hope to welcome back 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 summer wishes,**  
Coleen Clapper, Chair

### **FLORAL COMMITTEE**



#### **You are welcome to share your garden flowers for worship**

Or order flowers for the sanctuary to honor someone, celebrate a special occasion or just to brighten someone's spirit. Contact a member of the floral committee and they will take care of your request, \$40.00.

### **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](http://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 [slkline51@gmail.com](mailto:slkline51@gmail.com)



## CHURCH FAMILY BIRTHDAYS

### SEPTEMBER

1 – Linda Newell	14 – Kayla Overend
5 – Beth Larson	17 – Jerry Carges
6 – Andrew Carlisle	18 – Carolyn Ebner, Pat Gallagher
7 – Karen Bloom	19 – Linda Hook
9 – Jamie Paul	22 – Natalie Miles, Karyn Johnson
10 – Bonnie Santos	25 – Rob Santos
12 – Nick Miles	26 – Brooke Carlisle, Jessie 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 **Oct 2025 Newsletter Deadline** is **Monday, Sept 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](mailto:office@liverpoolfirstpres.org)

