

## **Spiritual Nurture Committee Annual Report - 2023**

### **Worship**

Sunday morning worship continues to be the center of our congregational life here at First Presbyterian. This year we continued our partnership with East Guilford. We alternate locations for worship each month (except December and January which allows each congregation to alternate Christmas and Easter service yearly). The rotation also changed this year as we decided to hold outdoor worship in East Guilford for both July and August so we worshiped in Bainbridge for May and June. In October we celebrated Rev. Dr. Kenneth Simurro, Jr.'s 40th Ordination Anniversary. During Pastor Ken's vacation and study leave time Cheryl Nages and Al Clune took the pulpit. We continue to offer remote worship options of Facebook Live and Zoom. Cheryl Nages runs the PowerPoint presentation when we are in East Guilford as well as the Facebook Live and Zoom streaming with the help of Ed Gorton and Kathy Schmidt. Karen Roszkowski compiles the bulletins and copies them when we are in Bainbridge while Don Cole copies them when we are in East Guilford. Colleen Lewis copies and sends out bulletins to those using Zoom who need printed copies (this will be discontinued in 2024). We continue to use liturgists during worship from both Bainbridge and East Guilford. Karen maintains the usher/greeter for Bainbridge & liturgist lists for both congregations and reminds people when it is their turn.

### **Bible Study**

Pastor Ken continues to offer Bible study on Sunday mornings before worship both in-person and on Zoom. We finished most of *Friedman's Fables* by Edwin H. Friedman before the summer break and are now studying Corinthians.

### **Flower Committee**

Special thanks to our Flower Committee chaired by Ann Baier for the contributions to worship this year. Ann collected donations and purchased flowers for both Easter and Christmas. The decorations are always very beautifully and tastefully done.

### **Music**

The adult choir sang in worship 1-2 Sundays per month under the direction of Cheryl Nages. Rehearsals were held Sunday mornings before worship. Our choir members have also been singing during worship in East Guilford under the direction of Judy Ives. Special thanks to organists Diane Bunting and Paula Banks for contributing to the worship services in such a valuable way, and to Dorian Bunting-Cliffe for filling in as needed.

## **Communication**

The directory was updated and distributed by Cheryl Nages. The church website and Facebook page is maintained by Cheryl Nages. Thanks to Paula Gifford & Dorian Bunting-Cliffe who keep us connected with email updates and prayer concerns. An email is also sent with remote worship options each week. We have also started work on our portion of the Manual of Operations that is being developed for our church.

## **Meetings**

We continued our joint meetings with East Guilford via Zoom. We collaborate with Pastor Ken on worship needs and hymn selections.

*Many thanks to all those who have helped in one or more of these areas this past year. In 2024 we look forward to your continued support and pray for new individuals to join us in carrying out these many programs. Everyone can contribute in some way.*

Spiritual Nurture Committee members include: Cheryl Nages (chair), Ann Baier, Paula Banks, Karen Roszkowski, & Billie Jo Northrop. (East Guilford Worship Committee: Don Cole, Judy Ives, Sandy Egli)

## **RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

The resource Committee is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the church building and grounds. This year we contracted out to have repairs done to the roof around the chimney. George Gifford continued to take care of the mowing and weed whacking this past summer. He also secured pavement grindings from the village for our parking lot. I have taken care of shoveling, and also appreciate those that take care of the sidewalks when needed. I do regular building checks, which involve making sure that the building is secure, lights are off and the heat is turned down and the garbage is out weekly. Thank you to everyone that takes the time to ensure that these things are taken care of when you are in the building. The committee appreciates the work of everyone that helps to take care of the church building and grounds.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Cliffe, committee chair