

https://www.progressiveinvolvement.com/progressive_involvement/2015/09/pentecost-18-mark-9-38-50.html

**“STUMBLING BLOCKS, MILLSTONES,
& SALTED WITH PRAYER”**

Ordinary Time 18 ✠ September 26, 2021

FARMINGDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THIS WEEK at Farmingdale Presbyterian Church

September 26—October 3, 2021

9/26	Sunday	10am 11:30a-3:30p	Worship in-person & on FB Live – Ordinary Time 18 Pastor Lonna’s Office Hours
9/27	Monday	5:30pm	Leaderwise Meeting with Elders – on Zoom
9/28-10/17			Pastor Lonna on Vacation
9/29	Wednesday	6-7:30pm	AYM Zoom Meeting – Jackbox Games (note change in time & day)
10/3	Sunday	10am	Worship in-person & on FB Live – World Communion Sunday

Upcoming Events

10/4	Monday	5:30pm	Leaderwise Meeting with Elders – on Zoom
10/6	Wednesday	9am	Abigail Circle? – Host/Place TBD
10/7	Thursday		Spring St. Vets Renaissance Center Meal – If you are interested in helping, please contact Pat Meier – (217) 546-6250
		6:30pm	Ruth Circle – Pat Meier, Farmingdale Fellowship Hall
10/10	Sunday	10am	Worship in-person & on FB Live – Ordinary Time 20
10/17	Sunday	10am	Worship in-person & on FB Live – Ordinary Time 21
10/18	Monday	5:30pm	Leaderwise Meeting with Elders – on Zoom
		9pm	Session Reports/Motions deadline
10/20	Wednesday		Pioneer Deadline
		10am	CCM – on Zoom
10/21	Thursday	6:30pm	Sara Ross’s Bunco Group
10/24	Sunday	10am	Worship in-person & on FB Live – Ordinary Time 22 (Reformation Sunday?)
		afternoon	Halloween Trunk or Treat?

We continue to broadcast on Facebook LIVE so that those who need to remain at home can participate in our service as well.

Click this link to begin
<https://www.facebook.com/FarmingdalePresbyterianChurch.org>

You do NOT have to join Facebook to watch our worship service.

WHILE THE FPC WEBSITE IS TEMPORARILY DOWN,
 Digital Worship Bulletins can be downloaded at this Direct link—<https://bbqspann.wixsite.com/website>



If you missed Facebook Live, you can still view the service.

Use the Facebook link & look for video in our "Posts".

Let us know you are there by saying "hi," commenting, & hitting the Like or Love buttons. We love to know you are watching!!

We are striving to include as many of our congregation as possible. Please join us Live next Sunday at 10 am!



While Pastor Lonna is on vacation through 10/17, please contact the following for prayer concerns or pastoral needs:

Prayer Chain Coordinator is:
 Judy Adams—(217) 546-4743 home

Pastoral concerns
 Call an Elders who will reach the Pastor-on-call who is Rev. Christian Choi

Pat Miller is doing office projects by request. Please contact Pat at the church office email FarmingdalePCoffice@yahoo.com to request her help.

Pastor Lonna’s office hours this week will be on Sunday (today) from 11:30am-3:30pm
 Lonna is available by appointment as well. Please call or text her to set up a time and place. (217) 801-7964

If you are coming by, please observe social distancing & using a face covering.





JOYS & CONCERNS (updated 9/25/2021)



Healing

***Gary's 5 y.o. cousin Eloise – Alpers syndrome, a degenerative fatal disease; 9/20 update: "Day 19 at Luries; Day 8 in ICU on the vent. No huge changes. She is still unable to self-regulate her temp. Not good. Please continue prayers for her and her family." (Marialyce H.)**

Ron W.—ICU, infection & large kidney stone (Bud W.'s son)

Bill—Parkinson's worsening (Louie A.'s Bil)

Neighbor—hit by a car (Scott M.)

Pat M.—9/3 hernia repair surgery, continued healing

Tom C.—stroke; heart surgery later (Ralph G.)

Betti C.—further testing (Ralph G.)

Charisse—eye problems (Ce N.'s daughter)

Sherry W.—8/17 fell & broke her right foot & ankle; continued healing for broken femur from early summer

Esther B.—healing for 8/2 knee replacement surgery. & right eye that has lost partial vision due to a blood clot.

Dave—successful heart transplant on 8/15 (Esther T.'s cousin)

Joy Y.—broken arm; slowly healing; 7th new cast on 7/29 (Chuck G.'s sister)

Nancy G.—2 stents put in (Mary Ann R.)

Velma F.—still getting PT for her leg; rUTIs

Ashley H.—more medical tests (Kim H.)

Ann N.—now home (Pat. I.'s daughter)

Charlotte W.—tests & adjustments (Sharon W.' g-daughter)

Kye—Dravet Syndrome (severe epilepsy) (Ralph G.)

Cancer Treatment & New Dx

***Maebeth Nicholson gave an update on Ed Wahl. "They put his port in last week and all went well. He has his first chemo treatment on 9/23. And will have 1 treatment a week for 4 weeks & then more tests. Thank you."**

Lynn W.—good tumor marker numbers (Rich D.'s HS friend)

Jennifer H.—her cancer is stable (Cheyenne H.)

Betsy I—Myeloma in full remission

Bob F.—treatable low-grade bladder cancer (Bill K.'s BIL)

Friend.—cancer dx

Linda S.—prayer for full remission (Marialyce H.'s cousin)

Len & wife Sandy—recurrent cancer treatment (Ralph G.)

Bill—diabetes, Parkinson, recurrent cancer at home (Ralph G.)

Earl B.—prostate cancer (Jenica H.)

Brian E.—stage 4 lung cancer (Kim H.)

Ruth Ann D.—breast cancer (Betty J.'s friend)

COVID-19

Billy H.—doing better & return to work soon (Marialyce H.)

Mark M. (friend & tree trimmer)—still struggling after hospitalization (Ralph G. & Bill K.)

Gary L.—hospitalized (Mel M. friend)

John H.—severe COVID; on ECMO & dialysis in Barnes St.

Louis until 1/2022 (Kim H.'s daughter's BIL)

Deaths—Lifting up these families in prayer as they grieve for the loss of . . .

***Marshall C.—passed on Friday, 9/24 from COVID (Dave J.)**

Hospice

Bonnie G. (Chuck, Lonna, & Ruby)

Church/Local

For love & respect to guide our healing for our conflict in the body of Christ at Farmingdale (Tim H.)

Pray for a miracle for that God makes a way for us as the body of Christ

For our farmers encountering vehicles during the harvest (Bill K.)

National/Global

Darren S.—in New Orleans restoring power (Wendy V.)

Recovery from natural disasters: earthquake in Haiti, fires in the west, devastation from Hurricane Ida

Those serving in our Armed Forces:

All our service people and their families, especially:

- ♦ Matt J.—IL Air Guard Reserve; in KS
- ♦ Samantha C.—IL Air Guard Reserve; stationed away for continued training
- ♦ Nathan J—IL Air Guard Reserve
- ♦ Nik Clemens—IL Air Guard Reserve
- ♦ Christian J.—IL Air Guard Reserve
- ♦ J.T. M.—IN Air Guard Reserve
- ♦ Ryan B.—Navy, Charleston SC

WHEN
THEY
CALL
ON
ME
I
WILL
ANSWER
SAYS
THE
LORD

PSALM 91:15

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Ordinary Time 18

10:00am

September 26, 2021

*"Neither sugar nor salt tastes particularly good by itself.
Each is at its best when used to season other things.
Love is the same way. Use it to 'season' people."*

– Vera Nazarian

Gathering Around God's Word

Prelude

"You Raise Me Up"

– Secret Garden

Welcome

*If you have a joy or concern to share, please fill out
a prayer request card & bring it to the offering plate in the center aisle.*

Rev. Lonna C. Lee

Introit #693

"Though I May Speak (The Gift of Love)"

(verse 3 only)

**3. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.**

* Call to Worship & Prayer of Invocation (*inspired Psalm 124, James 5, & Mark 9*)

One: *If it had not been God who was on our side,*

ALL: **THE TROUBLES OF OUR WORLD would have swallowed us whole.**

One: *If it had not been God who was on our side,*

ALL: **THE SORROWS OF OUR TIMES would have swept us away.**

One: *Are any among us suffering?*

ALL: **COME AND PRAY.**

One: *Are any among us cheerful?*

ALL: **COME SING SONGS OF PRAISE.**

One: *Are any among us sick?*

ALL: **COME AND ASK FOR HEALING.**

One: *Our help is in our God,*

ALL: **THE ONE who made heaven and earth.**

One: *Call upon God, creator and rescuer.*

ALL: **GOD IS ON OUR SIDE.**

One: *Together, we pray . . .*

ALL: **Christ Jesus, we come into your presence from many different places.**

We come with songs of joy and shouts of gratitude.

We come carrying heavy burdens and sighs of suffering.

As you welcome us into your house, lift our burdens and receive our praise.

Salt us with your grace and flavor us with your mercy.

Bind us together, that we may be at peace with one another

and be strengthened to go forth in service to the world.

In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

* Hymn #664

"Morning Has Broken"

1. Morning has broken	Like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken	Like the first bird.
Praise for the singing!	Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing	Fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall	Sunlit from Heaven,
Like the first dewfall	On the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness	Of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness	Where his feet pass.

**3. Mine is the sunlight,
Born of the one light
Praise with elation,
God's re-creation**

**Mine is the morning,
Eden saw play.
Praise every morning,
Of the new day!**

Call to Confession

One: We've tried to stop, haven't we?

*All the foolishness which causes us to stumble, all the mistakes which hurt others,
all the words of peace we might speak, but don't.*

Let us join our voices as we open our souls to that tender Heart who longs to forgive us, praying, . . .

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

One: Lord, we confess that we have put stumbling blocks in front of others.

**ALL: WE CONFUSE PEOPLE about what it means to be your disciple when we say that we are
Christians but then we treat others poorly, use our words as weapons, and deny love to others
who are different from us. (silence)**

One: Lord, we confess that our hands have caused us to stumble.

**ALL: WE HAVE clenched our fists in anger, closed our hands in greed, and shoved our hands into our
pockets instead of reaching out to others. (silence)**

One: Lord, we confess that our feet have caused us to stumble.

**ALL: WE HAVE walked away from those who are in need, stood still when we should have acted,
and dug our heels into the ground out of stubbornness and spite. (silence)**

One: Lord, we confess that our eyes have caused us to stumble.

**ALL: WE HAVE been too focused on ourselves, pretended not to see those around us who are
hurting, and overlooked opportunities to serve you. (silence)**

One: Gracious God, please walk beside us, guide us, catch us when we stumble.

**ALL: STRENGTHEN US by your Spirit that we may live lives that are true reflections of your love,
grace, and mercy. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

*One: The good news is this: God loves the world so much as to make it a fit place to live;
God loves us so much as to reshape us into people of faith.*

**ALL: LIKE A CUP OF COLD WATER, forgiveness revives us, restores us, & gives us new life.
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Alleluia and Amen!**

* Gloria Patri #581

"Glory Be to the Father"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:

And to the Holy Ghost;

World without end. Amen.

Proclaiming God's Word

Time with Children

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:38-50 (NRSV)

Another Exorcist

³⁸ John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹ But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰ Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹ For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

Temptations to Sin

⁴² "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³ If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go

to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹ "For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰ Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Epistle Reading

James 5: 13-20 (NRSV)

The Prayer of Faith

¹³ Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷ Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹ My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰ you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Sermon

"Stumbling Blocks, Millstones, & Salted with Prayer"

Rev. Lonna Chang-Ren Lee

Responding to God's Word

* Hymn #693

"Though I May Speak (The Gift of Love)"

1. Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.
2. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.
3. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

Opportunities for Ministry

Minute for Sharing

"Women's Mission Ministry"

Pat Irwin?

Call for the Offering

* Doxology #606

"Praise God from whom . . ."

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication (from Esther 7 & 9, Psalm 124, and Mark 9)

ALL: GIVING GOD, we can never match your generosity.
When we are in need, you are at our side, present to us even in our darkest moments.
You rescue us from harm.
Make us into a people who celebrate your goodness,
drawing others into the celebration of your many blessings.
Receive our offerings, even if they are as small as a drink for someone who thirsts.
Transform them into the mystery of your reign here and now on earth,
in the name of Jesus, your greatest gift, Amen.

Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer (unison)

page 35 (GG)

Sent Out With God's Word

* Hymn #767

"Together We Serve"

(verses 1, 2 & 3)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Together we serve,
We work and we pray | united by love,
through sorrow and joy, | inviting God's world to the glorious feast.
extending God's love to the last and the least. |
| 2. We seek to become
We learn, year by year, | a beacon of hope,
to let love shine through | a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
until we see Christ in each person we meet. |
| 3. We welcome the scarred,
We offer a home | the wealthy, the poor,
to those who will come, | the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare. |

* Charge & Benediction

* Extroit #767

"Together We Serve"

(verse 4 only)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 4. Together, by grace,
Together we serve | we witness and work,
in Spirit and truth, | remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.
remembering love is the strength of our song. |
|---|--|---|

* Peace of Christ

* Postlude

"Be Thou My Vision"

– Unknown



**Those who are able please stand.*

All sung music can be found in Glory to God hymnal.

Today's liturgy is adapted from:

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Proper%2021%20B>

<https://www.liturgylink.net/category/ordinary-time/ordinary-year-b/ordinary-9b-33b/ordinary-26b/page/2/>

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/6269/worship-elements-september-26-2021>

https://pres-outlook.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Liturgy_09-26-21.pdf



The Christian Ed committee would like to have a fall/Halloween activity. Farmingdale Elementary School may have a Trunk or Treat event on the afternoon of Sunday, October 24. Before we go further in our planning, we'd like to know who at the church would be interested in participating at a Trunk or Treat event in the church parking lot on the same date and time!

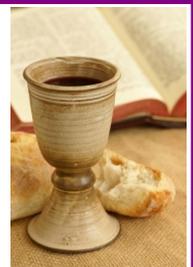
Please let Sara or Kim know if you are interested in decorating your car trunk and passing out candy, dressing up and helping with some outside activities or anything else that might make an afternoon fun for younger kids.

We are open open for any ideas or suggestions! You can call or text Sara (217-414-5792) or Kim (217-481-5175), Thanks.

Communion is NEXT SUNDAY!!!

BYOE (Bring Your Own Elements if you are watching from home)

Please have your communion elements for NEXT WEEK'S service
(cracker/bread/cake/cookie & a cup) .



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