

THE TIDINGS

The Shelter Island Presbyterian Church Newsletter

Upcoming Celebrity Chef Dinner

Our next Celebrity Chef Dinner is going to be **Saturday, February 21st at 6:30 P.M.** in the Fellowship Hall. Call for reservations.

Annual Meeting Highlights

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation/Corporation of Shelter Island Presbyterian Church was held on Sunday, February 1st, 2015. Here are some highlights in case you missed it:

- The congregation approved the slate of nominees for the upcoming classes of Elders, Deacons, and CNC members.
- The 2015 SIPC budget was approved.
- Rev. Fearing's 2015 Terms of Call were approved.
- Members of the Session, Diaconate, and CNC that have rotated off were dismissed with thanksgiving for their servant leadership.
- We remembered those who died last year and have joined the church triumphant



Wash Me, and I Shall Be Whiter Than Snow (Ps. 51:7)

Winter has crept upon us once more! The picture above was taken on Tuesday, January 27th after more than two feet of snow blanketed Shelter Island overnight. During this time of year and the often tumultuous weather that accompanies it, we give thanksgiving to God for the many people that keep us safe in such conditions: the highway department crew, the EMS personnel, the fire department, the police department, as well as numerous good samaritans that shared God's blessings with others in their times of need.





SIPC Elder Accepts Call to Serve Wider Church Family

I have been asked to serve on the Committee of Ministry (COM) of the Presbytery of Long Island. My term began on January 5th, 2015 and ends December 2017. I must say, I am honored and overwhelmed at the same time. So what is COM?

COM functions on behalf of the presbytery to facilitate the reception and oversight of teaching elders, approval of calls for pastoral services and invitations for temporary pastoral services, oversight of congregations without pastors, dissolution of relationships, dismissal of members, and its close relationship with both member congregations and teaching elders. It may delegate its authority to designated entities within the presbytery.

My assignment is to be the liaison for three presbyterian churches on the east end of Long Island. One of them has a temporary supply pastor which I will be working closely with by attending one or more of their session meetings and meeting with the clerk of session and temporary pastor as needed.

I personally feel it is a good thing for our church to be involved in this way with the presbytery. I find it interesting to learn about the workings of this presbytery and thus far, the 18 member COM Committee has been helpful and supportive. It has been a joy to work with them! I ask for your prayers as I embark on this service.

In Christ,
Ellen Gove

From Stephen's Desk

Taking a cue from Ellen Gove's willingness to serve the wider church family, it is with joy and excitement that I share with you all that I have been called by the Presbytery of Long Island to serve as one of its two delegates to the Synod of the Northeast.



Rev. Fearing

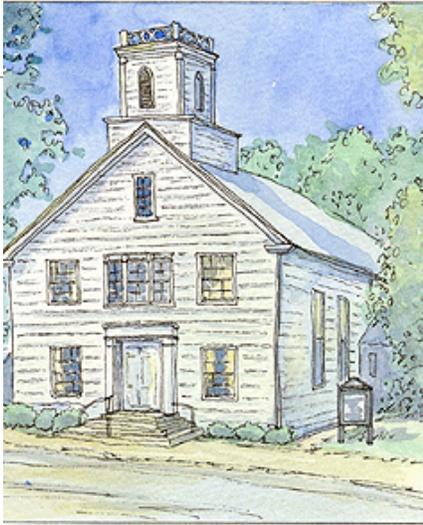
Just in case you're confused as to what that means (it's OK if you are, I assure you you're not alone!), here's the breakdown. Each presbyterian church is part of a presbytery (in our case, the Presbytery of Long Island). Likewise, each presbytery is part of a synod (in our case, the Synod of the Northeast). The synod of which we are a part includes all of the presbyteries of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Personally, I have had a good deal of experience with presbyteries - mainly, my home presbytery of Cherokee Presbytery and, now, the Presbytery of Long Island. However, I have very little experience with the synod level so I am excited to be given the opportunity to serve my larger faith family in this way that is quite new to me.

So what does this mean? I will be meeting with the Synod commission about four times a year in Albany (usually a Friday and Saturday). Additionally, the Synod meets in full over a weekend once a year. All travel expenses are paid for by the synod including the cost to have a supply pastor for the one Sunday I'll be gone a year!

Just as you might be a member of SIPC, I am a member of the Presbytery of Long Island. Therefore, I am eager to serve the larger church family of which we are a part and I invite your prayers as I go about this task for the next three years!

Grace and peace,
Stephen



SHELTER ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CH

Contact Info

Church Address

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Church Web Address

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Church Phone Number

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Follow SIPC on Twitter

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Follow Pastor Stephen on Twitter

@stephenmfearing

Pastor Stephen's Cell

(404)823-5926

Pastor Stephen's Website

www.stephenmfearing.com

Revised Common Lectionary

lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu

2014 SIPC Annual Report Now Online!

Just in case you missed it, you can download the 2014 SIPC Annual Report on our website. Just go to www.sipchurch.org then click the "About Us" tab and select "Documents."

Upcoming Events @ShelterIslandPC

- Sunday, February 8th | 10:30 A.M. | Worship
- Monday, February 9th | 9:00 A.M. | Engaging the Text
- Tuesday, February 10th | 9:00 A.M. | Events Planning Meeting
- Sunday, February 15th
 - 10:30 A.M. | Worship
 - 3:00 P.M. | Shelter Island Friends of Music Concert
- Monday, February 16th | 9:00 A.M. | Engaging the Text
- Tuesday, February 17th
 - 10:30 A.M. | United Presbyterian Women
 - 7:00 P.M. | Session Meeting
- Wednesday, February 18th | 7:00 P.M. | Ash Wednesday Service
- Saturday, February 21st | 6:30 P.M. | Celebrity Chef Dinner
- Sunday, February 22nd | 10:30 A.M. | Worship
- Monday, February 23rd | 9:00 A.M. | *****NO** Engaging the Text***
- Thursday, February 26th | 5:00 P.M. | Lenten Prayer Service
- Sunday, March 1st
 - 10:30 A.M. | Worship
- Sunday, March 8th
 - 10:30 A.M. | Worship
 - 3:00 P.M. | "Basically Baroque" Concert

PCUSA Considering New Confession

The PCUSA is considering adding a new confession to the Book of Confessions called the Belhar Confession. It was approved by the PCUSA General Assembly last summer in Detroit and has been passed along for approval by each Presbytery. In order to amend the Book of Confessions to include this document, 114 of the 171 presbyteries in the USA have to vote yes. On Saturday, January 24th, the Presbytery of Long Island voted in favor of the Belhar Confession.

To read the Belhar Confession, simply go to our website (www.sipchurch.org) and click the "About Us" tab and then select "Documents" and click "Belhar Confession."

**Celebrity Chef
Presents
Vinnie and
Anthony
Italian Fare**



**Antipasto and Salad
Pasta with Meat Sauce
Meatballs and Sausage**

Tira Misu

Shelter Island Presbyterian Church

Saturday, Feb 21st

6:30 p.m. \$30.00

Reservations 749-0805 ext. *#