

GUEST PREACHERS & ORGANISTS

***The Rev. Dr. Nancy Schafer**, the LICC's Head Chaplain, who is ordained in the United Church of Christ, is available for guest preaching. You can reach her at nschaffer1@verizon.net or 631-586-9667 or 516-524-2882.

***The Rev. Lawrence W. Swensen**, an LICC Chaplain, also is available for guest preaching. You can reach him at nojonah@aol.com or 516-794-4505.

***Wally Merna**, manager of our Freeport food pantry, would be happy to speak to churches, service clubs or other community organizations. You can reach him at chaplainwally@gmail.com or 516-458-1360.

***The Rev. Sue Cardone**, LCSW-R, a retired Presbyterian clergywoman, is available for guest preaching on the North Fork and South Fork. She can be reached at 802-345-2876.

***The Rev. Joan Finck**, ordained in the United Church of Christ, is available for interim ministry and guest-preaching. You can reach her at revcpa@juno.com or 516-735-9726.

***The Rev. Ian Rottenberg** would be glad to share what Garden City Community Church has learned in creating a new, flourishing, informal, come-as-you-are alternative worship service on Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. You can reach him at [ian@the gcc.org](mailto:ian@thegcc.org) or 516-746-1700.

***The Rev. Brenda Ford**, the LIUCM campus minister at Stony Brook and co-chair the LICC's Pastoral Care Committee, is available for guest preaching. You can reach her at pastorbrendaford@gmail.com or 718-926-1464.

***The Rev. Dr. Penny Gadzini**, a pastoral counselor in Babylon and Northport who is ordained in the United Methodist Church, is available for guest-preaching and interim ministry. You can reach her at pennygadzini@aol.com or 917-287-0583.

***The Rev. Adrienne Flipse Hausch** is available from Eastern Queens to Western Suffolk for guest preaching, long-term pulpit supply, and sabbatical coverage. She is ordained in the Reformed Church in America, a graduate of New Brunswick Theological Seminary, and an attorney. You can reach her at ahausch@optonline.net, 516-521-2804, or 516-741-2000.

***The Rev. Joyce Brandon-Dugger**, Protestant Campus Minister at Hofstra University and a member of our Pastoral Care Committee, can be reached at revdugger05@aol.com, 516-463- 5227, or 917-834-9292.

***The Rev. Susumu Ando**, ordained in the United Methodist Church and a GreenFaith Fellow, is available for guest preaching in Nassau & Suffolk. You can reach him at sando@optonline.net or 631-357-1781.

***The Rev. Dr. Diane Samuels** is available for guest preaching in Nassau and Suffolk counties. She is a historian and ICF-certified life and leadership coach. She can be reached at (631) 388-3285.

***The Rev. Mark Applewhite**, a chaplain at St. Catherine's Hospital in Smithtown who is ordained in the United Church of Christ, is available for guest preaching in Suffolk & Nassau. You can reach him at 631-948-5383.

***Sister Camille D'Arienzo**, RSM who has done extensive prison ministry with death-row inmates, is available for speaking and preaching. You can reach her at cherilife@aol.com or 718-366-0966.

***Tom Lyons**, a member of Mt. Sinai Congregational Church (UCC) who is active in the Heifer Project, would be happy to speak or preach in local churches. He can be reached at lyonheifer@aol.com or 631-928-4317.

***The Rev. Kitt Von Braunsberg**, who is ordained in the United Church of Christ and is a chaplain at Nassau University Medical Center, is available for guest preaching in Nassau & Suffolk. You can reach her at 516-801-4275.

***The Rev. Juanita Hilsenbeck**, a retired pastor, is available for guest preaching. You can reach her at revjuanita@aol.com or 516-541-5624.

***The Rev. Dr. Gloria Nixon-Pone**, ordained in the United Church of Christ, is available for pulpit supply in Nassau and Western Suffolk. You can reach her at dr.gloria.nixon.pone@gmail.com or 516-333-3686.

***Virginia Blass**, who has a D. Min. and more than 25 years of experience in religious work, is available for guest preaching or leading retreats in Suffolk and Nassau. You can reach her at vblass3@aol.com or 603.731.8687 (c) or 631.849.3305 (h).

***Rabbi Paul Kushner**, who retired from a Reform synagogue in Bellmore and has extensive interfaith experience, is available for guest preaching in Nassau and Western Suffolk. You can reach him at 516-783-6448.

***The Rev. Jays Abraham**, a chaplain at Winthrop Hospital who is ordained in the Church of God, is available for guest preaching anywhere on Long Island or in the metro area. He can be reached at PastorJays@gmail.com or 516-850-4971.

***The Rev. Angela Cesa**, an interfaith minister who is a certified chaplain and a Unitarian Universalist, is available for preaching in Nassau. You can reach her at angelacesa1@gmail.com or 516-739-2588.

***Arvind Vora**, a Jain who serves on the LICC's Ministry & Mission Board and chairs the Long Island Multi-Faith Forum, would be glad to speak about this unique, 11-faith, interreligious education project. You can reach him at avora@optonline.net or 631-269-1167 or 917-406-6065.

***Ann McPartlin** from St. Francis Episcopal Church in North Bellmore, would be glad to speak about their community garden, which has as much as a ton of produce to the LICC's emergency food pantry in Freeport each year. You can reach her at anniemcp@verizon.net or 516-546-0002.

* **Janet Wright**, a recent graduate of the New Seminary who is a certified lay speaker in the United Church of Christ, is available for pulpit supply in Suffolk. You can reach her at janet199@optonline.net

***Rabbi Barry Dov Schwartz**, a campus minister at Adelphi University, is available for guest-preaching and speaking engagements within a half-hour drive from Garden City. He can be contacted at bds48@aol.com.

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***Jainnie Hackman**, campus staff worker for Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship at Hofstra University, is available to speak to local congregations about college ministry, Bible teaching or leadership development. She can be reached at jainniehackman@gmail.com or 516-509-2397.

***Imam Khalid Lateef** is available for guest preaching and lecturing on Islam. You can reach him at 631-865-8347 or kslateef@aol.com.

***Ann McPartlin** from St. Francis Episcopal Church in North Bellmore would be glad to speak about their community garden, which has as much as a ton of produce to the LICC's emergency food pantry in Freeport each year. You can reach her at anniemcp@verizon.net or 516-546-0002.

***Abid Shakeel**, a Christian from Pakistan who works for Catholic Charities, would be glad to speak in Suffolk, Nassau, or Queens about the importance of religious freedom and the plight of religious minorities in Pakistan. You can reach him at abernjha@yahoo.com or 516-477-8747. Sajid Christopher also is available to speak. You can reach him at 516-368-2277.

SUBSTITUTE ORGANISTS:

*David Ofori is available to pinch hit as a substitute organist anywhere in Nassau County. He has 10+ years of experience playing Gospel, Contemporary Christian, Caribbean, and traditional hymn music for Baptist, Pentecostal, apostolic, and charismatic churches. You can see videos of him playing when he was quite young at <https://www.youtube.com/hammondboy19>

He can be reached at (914)837-1946 or dave.ofori@yahoo.com

*Victoria Hedberg Kingwell, a member of the American Guild of Organists who has played for St. Paul AME Zion Church in Quogue, Bell AME Zion Church in Center Moriches, Christ Episcopal Church in Sag Harbor and the United Methodist Churches in Center Moriches and Westhampton Beach is available to substitute from Patchogue to Hampton Bays. She is comfortable with a wide variety of Protestant worship styles, has most of the major denominations' hymnals, can sight-read well. She also is available on Saturdays until May, and on Thursdays and Fridays. You can reach her at 516-527-1008 (cell) or 631-399-1435 (home) or myosotis51@aol.com.

*Susan Isherwood is available to substitute in Nassau County. You can reach her at 207-807-1202 or isherwood4@verizon.net or capriccio44@gmail.com.

WHAT SHOULD GUEST PREACHERS & ORGANISTS BE PAID?

People often call the Long Island Council of Churches for help finding a guest preacher or organist, but they also often need help determining what "the going rate" may be.

Some denominations have clear guidelines:

*Episcopal parishes are supposed to pay substitute priests at least \$175 per service, plus travel expenses; organists get about the same.

*The Metro New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America recommends that clergy be paid \$175 for one service, \$200 for two services on the same day, and \$225 for three services the same day, plus mileage at the IRS business rate, and reimbursement of parking fees and tolls. If public transit is used, reimbursement of the fare is expected. Most organists are willing to accept \$150, but some ask \$200.

*The Presbytery of New York strongly recommends at least \$200.

*In other denominations, there are no guidelines but a rough consensus as to which honoraria are insulting and which are generous: Reformed churches, for example, generally pay guest preachers \$150 to \$300 and organists at least \$125.

Here are the American Guild of Organists guidelines:

Substitute Musicians

Single service (organist only or director only, no separate rehearsal), \$100-\$225

Additional services (organist or director only) not requiring additional preparation, \$50-\$125

Single service (organist-director combination, no separate rehearsal), \$150-\$275

Additional services (organist-director combination) not requiring additional preparation, \$75-\$175

Rehearsal fees range from \$25-\$100/hour, depending on whether the substitute is organist only, director only, or organist-director combination and the preparation required

Mileage is charged if visits to church for practice, rehearsal, and service exceed 20 miles per round trip.

The charge for contracting singers/instrumentalists is \$15-\$35/person hired.

Weddings

Service fees are \$100-\$350 (service only)

Wedding rehearsal with bridal party is \$50-\$100/hour.

Additional rehearsals are \$30-\$50/hour.

Mileage is charged if visits to church for practice, rehearsal, and service exceed 20 miles per round trip.

The charge for contracting singers/instrumentalists is \$15-\$35/person hired.

Funerals

Service fees are \$100-\$225 (service only)

Rehearsals \$25-\$100/hour, depending on the difficulty of the music and the participation of choirs, soloists, or instrumentalists.

Mileage is charged if visits to church for practice, rehearsal, and service exceed 20 miles per round trip.

The charge for contracting singers/instrumentalists is \$15-\$35/person hired.

THE CARE AND FEEDING OF GUEST PREACHERS:

WHAT TO DO IF YOU PAY LESS THAN THE “GOING RATE”?

If your church pays less than the going rate for a preacher or organist, you may have a hard time finding a pinch-hitter. You may think of yourself as a little congregation that cannot afford much, but it takes just as long to prepare a sermon or prelude for you as it does for a larger flock. What can you do if you fear you cannot afford more?

*If you do not pay an honorarium or pay a small one, be honest about that. Some clergy really need and depend upon the additional income from this extra work. You may be able to find someone who will preach gratis, and that is a lot better than having a pinch-hitter bad mouth you for stiffing him or her. The same goes for guest organists.

*Don't make them chase you to get the honorarium. It is customary to hand honoraria to pinch-hitting clergy and organists when they cover the worship service. If you need them to fill out paperwork—if they receive more than \$600 from you during a calendar year, for example—ask them to do this well in advance.

*Take a hard look at how your attendance may be affected by mediocre music or poor preaching. If attendance and the offering plummet when your pastor or organist is away, it may be penny wise but pound foolish to settle for those who will work cheap.

If you budget only \$600 to fill six weekends a year for \$600, it is better to pay \$150 and do something creative twice a year, rather than try to find six folks who will preach for \$100.

*Invite a certified lay speaker from a neighboring congregation who may welcome an opportunity to preach more often, even without receiving honoraria. Instead of a guest preacher, you might occasionally invite your organist or choir director to lead a “sermon in song” reflecting on favorite music. Or ask a talented, aspiring young pianist play once or twice a year for free instead of a substitute organist.

*Invite speakers or musicians who are willing to offer their services gratis in exchange for promoting their mission project and receiving a “special offering.” Even poor, struggling congregations often rise to the occasion with an outpouring of generosity.

*Think about how you can support a cause near and dear to the heart of an underpaid guest preacher. I know I appreciate it when a congregation collects food for our food pantry, puts something in their church newsletter about the work of the LICC before I get there, encourages people to sign up for *The Prelude*, seeks volunteers for LICC projects while I’m there, and plugs one of my books. See if you can do something such as this for other parsons. A preacher who has written a book, for example, might appreciate an opportunity to autograph (or sell) copies during coffee hour.

*Give whatever gestures of appreciation you can. Have somebody greet the guest preacher at the door and point him or her in the right direction—a good thing to do for all visitors. Make sure there is a glass of water on the pulpit. Ask what parts of the service he or she might like someone from the congregation to lead. Assign someone to shepherd the visiting shepherd and make sure that he or she does not end up standing alone during coffee hour. Tell the pinch-hitter something in the sermon that makes you think: one of the odd things about pastoring is that you often learn the impact of a sermon months later; hit-and-run preachers often get no feedback at all. Wading River Congregational Church has a wonderful tradition of sending nicely wrapped bouquet of flowers from the altar to someone who might appreciate them, along with a printed note that said:

“These flowers have been in the Wading River Congregational Church. They have heard the hymns that have been sung, the prayers that have been offered, and the sermon that has been preached. Now they come to you, and in their silent way, are telling you of God’s love and healing power, and the wish of the members of this church that you be blessed with faith, hope, health, and happiness.”

Both this pinch-hitter and his wife appreciated the thought—and the flowers.

*Send a thank-you note. Hit-and-run preachers usually get little feedback on how the sermon they spent hours preparing was received by your flock. Few churches send any note of appreciation. And if somebody is supposed to send a card the next day, the congregation is less likely to forget to send a check.