

**Sunday Mornings**

June 1 Worship Services  
8:30 & 10:45  
Church School at 9:30  
Adult Ed at 9:30

**Summer Worship  
Schedule Begins**

June 8 Children's Sunday  
Worship Service at 9:30

June 15, 22, 29  
Worship Service at 9:30

**The Disciple**

*On the Way to GA!* **“ABOUND IN HOPE”**

This month, I'm headed to Detroit for the 221st General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) which will take place June 14-21. I am one of 4 commissioners elected and sent by our Presbytery to this biennial meeting of our national denomination. Although I've been Presbyterian my whole life, I've never been to GA before, so I thought it might be helpful to learn a bit more about GA and share it with you.

Did you know?

- The PC(USA) has approximately 1.8 million members in over 10,000 congregations in the US? These congregations are organized into 173 presbyteries (district governing bodies) which make up 16 synods (regional governing bodies). FPC Yorktown is a congregation of the Presbytery of Hudson River which is located in the Synod of the Northeast.
- This year's General Assembly will have 654 commissioners who are elected by their presbyteries to attend and vote on business at the assembly. Half of the commissioners are ruling elders (lay leaders) and half are teaching elders (ministers). There are also 219 advisory delegates from different groups – young adults, theological students, missionaries and ecumenical representatives.
- In addition, another 3000-4000 people from 50 states and many different countries will attend GA. Some of these will be delegates from sister denominations around the world. Others will be representatives of various organizations within the PC(USA) and the broader church. Many will have exhibits and booths set up in the huge exhibit hall. Still others will be there just to observe. Whatever their purpose, that's a lot of people!
- The purpose of the General Assembly is to discern the mind of Christ and the will of God for the PC(USA) through worship, conversation, committee meetings, and plenary sessions. It is a weighty assignment, but one that we believe and pray will be guided by the Holy Spirit. "We begin and end with worship, and in between there are celebrations, deliberations and inspirations for everyone."

The General Assembly will act on issues ranging from theology (what we believe) to social witness (how we live our faith in the world) to self-governance (how we organize ourselves to be the most faithful and effective church we can be). There will be a number of "hot button" issues before the GA this year, including marriage equality and Israel/Palestine relations. GA will act on hundreds of items of business which it receives through the reports and recommendations of various assembly entities and through overtures from synods and presbyteries. It will be a busy 8 days!



This year's theme is "Abound in Hope," based on Romans 15:13. As we have been discussing in our Thursday morning study group on the Great Emergence, our church and our world are in the midst of an era of profound transition. The church is wrestling with many challenges to its identity and purpose in the world. As we live into the uncertainties and opportunities of God's future, our anchor is the hope we know and cling to in Jesus Christ, who promises to go with us wherever God leads.

As our General Assembly convenes in Detroit and as God leads us into the future, please pray for all those working to be faithful to God's future. I'll look forward to sharing my adventures with you when I return!

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)*

Peace,

*P.S. If you want to learn more or follow what's happening at General Assembly, go to [www.pcusa.org/ga221](http://www.pcusa.org/ga221) or check out Spirit of GA page on Facebook.*

## Youth In Action



**Have you seen pictures** of some of our meetings? Our latest involved getting up close and personal with worms, weeds, and prickly rose bushes as we cleared out the iris beds along Route 132. That's a job that can take a couple of adults many days, but not this year! Thanks to the Coccodrillis for their leadership. Check it out at <http://bit.ly/TTHBXi>.

**June** is chock-full of action. Since our program year winds down at the end of the month, this is a perfect time to dive in, have some fun, and connect with friends before the summer begins.

### Here's what's happening:

**Sunday, June 1st, 5 - 7 p.m.**

**Hunger Banquet @ FPCY**

*How does it feel to go hungry?*

[fpcyyouth.weebly.org](http://fpcyyouth.weebly.org)

**Saturday, June 14th**

**THANK YOU Pool Party @ the Sherman's home**

*Bring a thankful heart, some great food, your bathing suit, and a towel as we say thank you to all the FPCY volunteers who made the year so rich.*

**Friday, June 21st, 5 - 8 p.m.**

**Food Stamp Challenge @ FPCY & elsewhere**

*How much food can you REALLY buy on a food stamp budget?*

**Saturday, June 28th, 2-6pm**

**Prepare dinner for Jan Peek House 2-6 p.m. @ FPCY**

**We're still  
collecting and  
recycling your  
bottles and  
cans!**

*Bring them in to  
support the  
Living Waters  
project.  
Thank you!*

## Church School "Chalkboard"

We want to take this time to thank everyone for a terrific Sunday School year! Through all the teachers shepherds, gathering time leaders and storytellers, the children have grown tremendously in their faith journey. As we close the year of "Quest for Identity", the children are learning from Paul how to be a Christian. The children are eager to share what they have learned with everyone on Children's Sunday!

We are going to continue the Living Waters project through the summer. Thank you to all who have and continue to support this mission.

Hope you all have a peaceful summer and we look forward to seeing everyone in September!

*Jocelyn Fontana & Jen Dixon, Superintendents*

## VBS 2014: Imagine & Build with God

**Sign Up Now!**

**July 7-11, 2014 from 9am-12noon**

*to be held at St. Andrews Lutheran Church*

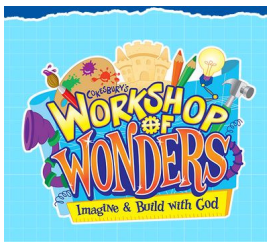
**Register and Pay Online!** [www.cokesburyvbs.com/yorktown](http://www.cokesburyvbs.com/yorktown)

Adult and Youth Volunteers, please register online, too!

Save the Dates: Youth Volunteer Training, mornings of July 1,2,3 @ St. Andrews



Register Online!



## Summer Camp Opportunities at Holmes

Day Camps, Resident Camps, Adventure Camps, Creative Camps and more for children and youth of all ages. Check out [holmescamp.org](http://holmescamp.org) for more info.

*Financial assistance is available. Please speak to Chip or Tami about it.*

## Sharing Our Stories

As our education programs wind down for the summer, we all should thank the teachers who have engaged our children, youth and adults to build relationships with us and deepen our faith. God has worked through many in our ministry to grow our faith, challenge our living, broaden our awareness, build our character, and call us into action. So, thank you, teachers, for letting God work through you this year.

Our denomination's General Assembly theme this year encourages all of us to "Abound in Hope". Here are some thoughts in the material Tami is reviewing before she leaves for General Assembly:

"What happens at General Assembly and what happens at home are related because the same people who sit in the plenary hall also sit in church pews. The same people who debate issues around justice build Habitat houses. The same people who wrestle with how to help people in conflict in another part of the world also wrestle with how to stop violence in their own communities. It is the same people with the same faith who pray, study the Bible, and sing hymns of faith.

"That faith is lived out in individual lives and in the community we know as church. It is in the living out that we find the courage, the love, and the faith to abound in hope."

Commissioners and advisory delegates are invited to reflect on some questions as they prepare for the assembly. Let's join those at General Assembly in reflecting on these questions as well:

1. We all have a story of faith. Where does your story encounter hope?
2. The story of the church is following the Lord who journeys before us. What does it mean to follow the Lord?
3. How does your church community make room for people to share their stories of faith? How can we listen to the stories of people who are not in the church?

I know without a shadow of a doubt that we all have answers to these questions, and it is always a joy to hear the story of faith of people in the church and outside of it as well. I'm thankful for the ways our teachers have helped us discover and live those answers and the many ways our ministry as a whole continues to encourage people to answer those questions in their lives. I look forward to hearing your story sometime and hope you will join me in praying for the people at General Assembly as they seek God's will for our life and ministry together.

*Chip*



Rev. Chip Low  
Pastor

## Mission Opportunities

### Midnight Run

Mark your calendars! We will be going on a Midnight Run on Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. We've got a driver (thank you, Jack Shaughnessy!) and the beginnings of a team (Elders Robin Corpolongo, Connie Knapp and Marisa Swift). We will also be reaching out to congregations in our Presbytery who have expressed an interest in supporting Midnight Runs.

- Want to know more about what is involved? Visit <http://midnightrun.org/> or speak with members of our congregation who have gone on previous runs. Connie Knapp and Jean Post-Winget can answer questions.
- Want to help? We'll need folks to provide all kinds of support before the run- providing bag lunches, providing clothing, sorting clothing, and getting us ready to go.
- Want to join us? We'll be leaving from the church to get to the city around 10:30 PM, and we'll stay until the food runs out, around 1 AM on Saturday morning.

Contact [Jean Post-Winget](#) or [Connie Knapp](#) to get involved.

### Hunger Action Network

We will be joining with the White Plains Presbyterian Church as part of the Hunger Action Network and working with Lori Hylton, the Presbytery's Hunger Action Enabler, on a conference to be held in October in conjunction with Food Week of Action (October 12-19) and World Food Day (October 16). Details to follow!

## HomeFront 2014

THANK YOU...

for the incredible team-work that went into making this year's project a huge success. Every job that got done is making a difference for the homeowner. Special thanks to Matt Hager and Andrew Winget for their team-leading, labors, planning and help with the project.

~Jean Post-Winget,  
Mission Commission

## Planned Giving: *Living Forward, Giving Forward*

Our church family has been a blessing to us throughout our lifetime, an integral part of our spiritual journey. But when it comes to our estate planning, do we consider our church family in our plans?

Our church believes in being able to serve God and our community in the next few days, months, years, and even decades. Planned Giving is about making a choice to give toward a better future for those we care about – including our church family. Planned Giving provides a long-term contribution to strengthen our church family and to make a difference for the future.

There are many different ways to give a gift to the church for the future: wills, charitable trusts, and insurance policies, to name a few. The most common form of a Planned Gift is through a will. Now is a good time to review our wills and estates in any event, since too many Americans put off this effort, and sometimes end up failing to provide for those they love.

A simple statement like this can be included in a will: “I give and bequeath the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (or the percentage of \_\_\_\_\_) to be used for the general program of the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown in Yorktown Heights, NY, 10598, USA.” A will is a unique document and must be structured to fit the needs and estate plans of each individual in accordance with the laws of the state in which each of us lives. Therefore, we should always consult with a lawyer to assist us in drawing up our will. Drawing up a will helps us provide for the future of the ones we love, and it can also help the future mission of our church.

How can a Planned Gift through a will help our church? Please read these words from Beryl Harper, whose late husband Jim remembered our church in his will a few years ago:

*“I am pleased to deliver the enclosed check as a bequest in Jim Harper’s will to the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown...*

*We lived in Yorktown for 27 years and were members (of the church) for almost 20. Jim particularly enjoyed the camaraderie of singing in the choir with the bass section. He also served on the Corporate Affairs Commission, now Operations, and was instrumental in installing a wheelchair-accessible bathroom many years ago. Our daughters both participated in many of the church activities during their school years; two that stand out in my memory are the choirs and the Midnight Run.”*

Jim’s gift has helped the mission of our church, and his generosity endures as a tribute to his faith.

Our Session has approved the establishment of an endowment fund, into which we recommend Planned Gifts be directed. As that endowment fund grows, our church will benefit from the resources the fund generates to further our church mission, but more importantly, future generations will see the benefits as well.

Please contact any member of our Planned Giving Committee (as part of our Stewardship Commission) with any questions. The final choice is, of course, up to each individual, and when we make a Planned Gift through a will, we must access legal counsel, separate from our Church, to finalize our commitment. But this is a commitment that will extend well into the future, to support the most enduring endeavor we can imagine, the work of God.

Thank you.

*The Planned Giving Committee: Frank Hodgkinson, Tim Lupfer, Emily Monk, Carol Talbot, Carol Thorne Gaetani*



## The Ministry of Our Deacons

“We’re Here to Serve”  
words & Music by Sarah Moore

*How many needs are in this world?  
Seems too much for any boy or girl  
Start with one and when you're done,  
Start all over again.*

*(Refrain) Find a Place where you can serve.  
Lend a hand to heal a hurt.  
Make a difference in your world.  
We all are here to serve.*

You may be starting to realize by now how much I love singing with children and how simple the message of the Gospel really is - when put into words children can understand. But how do we know we are here to serve? Answer: Because Jesus our Lord and Master has shown us and told us so.

The Gospel of John is the only one of the four Gospels that tells of the time during the Last Supper that Jesus took off his robes, tied a towel around himself and began to wash his disciples' feet. Peter was adamant. “No, Master you will not wash my feet!” Jesus continued what he was doing. He answered Peter, saying, that unless he allowed Jesus to wash his feet, Peter would not be able to partner and work with him in building the Kingdom.

How quickly Peter exclaimed, “Then wash my hands and head as well....not just my feet.” When Jesus was finished he said, “.... I am your Lord and Master. I have given you all an example to follow. Do as I have done to you....that is the pathway of blessing.” For the complete account of this story see John chapter 13.

What a humble act our Savior performed! What an incredible glimpse into Jesus' true character and the character Jesus wants all of us to adopt. As Christians we are to follow Jesus' example of ministering to and serving one another.

BUT, how many times have you wondered just how you could serve? How you could help? There are as many ways as there are people, really! We all have such varied and wonderful talents and abilities that are meant to be used and shared.

Recently I spoke with Jane Amato, one of our Deacons. Jane has been ordained as a Deacon for many, many years now. She may actually be among one of our “oldest” Deacons – in terms of years of service – that is.

I asked Jane how she had become a Deacon and why she had returned over and over again for another three year term of service. Jane simply said, “Well, I was asked.”

To which I heard myself reply, “You were asked????”

“Yes, I was asked and I thought that if they were asking me, there must be a need. I didn't really know what Deacons did but I had been wondering how I could serve and become more involved in living out my faith.”

Jane told me she also wondered about making a commitment for three years and whether her part would be of any significance. Quickly, however, she came to see all of the work that needed to be done. Jane learned that in working together with a group of people committed to serving in Jesus' name to build the Kingdom, that there was much she could do that was significant.

Jane was saddened at the end of her first year when 1/3 of the group finished their term and were replaced by newly ordained Deacons. Would the new ones be as good? Would it be hard to get to know them? Could they now be as effective?

To Jane's surprise, she found that her fears were groundless. The newly ordained Deacons turned out to be wonderful people, too! She made more friendships in the church! “I became more and more exposed to other people who shared my faith and were committed to following Jesus' example of showing God's love for each and every person. I felt good that I could help make a difference.”

And therein was the blessing just as Jesus had promised!! Jane experienced for herself all of the fullness of feeling that comes with loving and serving. Saint Francis of Assisi said it so well at the end of his famous prayer - “As much as we give – that much we are given.....I die to myself...at last I am living!”

Interestingly, there are many persons, formerly ordained as well as those who are not yet ordained, who presently work alongside our Deacons on an ongoing basis in various ministries of our church - such as Visitation and the Food Pantry. We are grateful to all who contribute their loving service with us. We are grateful as well to those who support our ministries financially by making their donations to the Deacon's Fund and donating food items to our pantry basket in the Gathering Space. God Bless you all!

~ Carol Gaetani for the Deacons



### Food Pantry Item of the Month

**CANNED  
TUNA**

**Next Dates:  
June 14 & 28  
9 to 11 am**

We need volunteers to  
load bags from  
8-9 am on the  
pantry days.

*It's time  
to start  
bringing in  
**School  
Supplies!***

*Donations  
gratefully  
accepted  
throughout  
the summer!*

**Thank you.**



## Knitting Groups

**Prayer Shawl Group** meets on Wednesday morning, June 4 at 9:30am and then on June 18, July 2, & July 16 at 10:30am. Please join us!

**Knit Togethers** meet next on June 9 & 23 and July 14 & 28

All who knit or crochet are welcome to join us. We will be busy this summer knitting children's hats and scarves, baby blankets, and lap blankets.

Our meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 10:00am to 11:30am, in Lounge 15. For information: Norean Radke (962-4370) or Lois Ostling (962-2809).

Please remember  
in your prayers:

Kathy Anderson  
Peg Bertsch  
Deanna Collins  
Allan Damon  
Gertrude Dineen  
Natalie Dineen  
Evelyn & Lynn Fischer  
Phillip Gresh  
Mary Hamblen  
Ken Hardy  
Eleanor Hibben  
Ruth Hickey  
Marie Hodgkinson  
Nellie Keller  
Caryl Kerber  
Bonnie Konnerth  
Jim Kutter  
Sarah Linehan  
Jim Lunday  
Florence Malcolmson  
Janet Mazzaroppi  
Dave Monk  
Janet Nelson  
Kyle Nelson  
Sue Palicz  
Genevieve Palmer  
Dixie Robinson  
Ruthann Scheffer  
Ruth Selman  
Dick Seymour  
Kim Sherman  
Delia Siemers  
Dottie Slechta  
Kathy Swenson  
Cal Weber  
Teddy Wilson

## New in the Church Library

The cover story of the April 24 *Time* magazine is entitled "Finding God in the Dark," a review and discussion of the theologian Barbara Brown Taylor's new book *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, now in the church library (248 T). In it, she encourages us to not only to seek the light but also to face the darkness, something 21<sup>st</sup> century Americans tend to resist. Defining darkness as "anything that scares me – either because I am sure I do not have the resources to survive it or because I do not want to find out," she argues that by exploring both literal and psychological darkness we can find courage, understand the world in new ways, and feel God's guiding presence around us. Often, it is while we are in the dark that we grow the most.

*Carol Jensen, Church Librarian*

## Senior Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will be having a Picnic Lunch in the Fellowship Hall on June 18<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon. All are invited. Hot dogs, hamburgers and refreshments will be supplied and we ask that you bring a side dish or dessert to share. Mark your calendars and come enjoy the great fellowship. July will be a Pot-Luck and August is yet to be determined.

The "Bunch" has decided again to go to the dinner theater to see "It Happened One Christmas Eve" next December 17<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in going, please reserve a ticket by sending a check for \$28.50 to Pat Prauda by June 18. Final payment of an additional \$28.50 is due by October 30.

*Pat and John Prauda  
for the Senior Lunch Bunch*

## Jan Peek Meal

Jan Peek House in Peekskill is a shelter for 19 homeless men and women, run by Caring for the Homeless of Peekskill (CHOP). On the 4th Saturday of each month, we provide dinner at the Jan Peek House. It is rewarding to share food and conversation with the residents, and it is an important part of our congregation's ministry to the community. New volunteers always welcome. Call Bud Cocodrilli (245-6475) to talk about it. Thanks to Girl Scout Troop 2905 for the May dinner. The June dinner will be prepared by our youth group. Call Bud to volunteer for future months.

## Noontime Meal

FPCY's Noontime Meal preparers will mobilize again on June 10 at Peekskill Presbyterian Church. We invite any of you to consider one or two hours of volunteer work per month on the Tuesday prior to the second Wednesday. This is a rewarding task and many hands make the work light and fun. Call Squeegie Mills (845-621-3178) or Ken Sherman (914-737-8294) for details.

## Offering Hospitality

### COFFEE HOUR

Please remember when you bake or pick up goodies to bring in items for coffee hour and place them in the freezer. We all enjoy something with our coffee on a Sunday morning, so please help out and drop it off in the kitchen freezer marked "FOR COFFEE HOUR" and it will get put out as needed. Also if you can help to reset and clean up on a Sunday morning for the 10:45am coffee hour, please sign up in the book on the table on a Sunday morning or give Pat Prauda a call at 737-4674 and she will walk you through it.

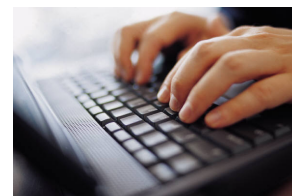


## The Disciple - "Green" Delivery

Starting with this issue, the Disciple will be sent "hot off the presses" direct to your e-mail box as well as your US mail box. You'll be able to read what's happening at FPCY as soon as it's printed...and in color! Your US Mail copy will arrive approximately one week after the Disciple is available online.

As changes have occurred at the US Post Office, we have decided to offer an e-mail copy immediately after printing. If you prefer to have The Disciple delivered ONLY to your e-mail box, please send Kim a note to let her know ([office@fpcyorktown.org](mailto:office@fpcyorktown.org)). You can simply put "e-mail Disciple Only" in the subject line. If you haven't shared an e-mail address with us, or would like to add e-mails for others in your family, please send a note to Kim.

We will continue to make sure you receive information in the way that you prefer.



## Operations Report

**Spring Clean-up** We anticipate a very good turnout of volunteers for Spring Clean-up on May 31. By the time you are reading this, our facilities will be dressed up for the summer season. Our work during Spring Clean-up entails both inside and outside work. Some volunteers spend time outside the specific schedule to accommodate their own schedules and be able to contribute.

Once again, we salute and are very grateful to Deanna Collins who does an immense amount of work behind the scenes to organize tasks, recruit volunteers and match volunteers to specific jobs. Thank you, Deanna..

**Improvement Projects:** Jose's work in the Treasurer's Office has been completed. He is now working in the Board Room/Music Room for painting and fixing up.

**Routine Work:** Jose has begun our normal spring work of getting things in shape. A/C's are being unwrapped, hoses deployed, water turned on for outside faucets, snow stakes stored, icemelter stored in the shed & sand buckets taken inside.

We have also recruited volunteers to power-

blow our walks and driveways in an attempt to cut down on the sand and grit that is carried in on shoes. Thanks to Bud Coccodrilli, Peter Marsh & Bill Fricia for taking turns at this endeavor. We have also replaced the scuff mats at each of our doors to help with this issue.

Our electrician has recently replaced bulbs and ballasts in the steeple spotlight fixtures.

Our normal remediation of the North Parking Lots will take place soon. This work entails scarifying the surface, leveling, laying down of pea-gravel and rolling with a heavy duty vibratory compactor. Overall, the North parking lots have remained in very good shape, but they do require annual maintenance to keep them up.

**If you see something, please say something:**

We are striving to keep our facilities in first class shape. If you see something that isn't quite right, please bring it to the attention of any member of Operations or myself. We will endeavor to remedy the issue quickly or plan for a longer range improvement if that is what is called for.

Dick Seymour  
Chair of Operations & Facilities Coordinator



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# The Disciple

June 2014

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Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:30

Pastor

Rev. Chip Low

Parish Associate

Rev. Tami Seidel



office@fpcyorktown.org

@fpcyorktown

Facebook.com/fpcyorktown

JUNE		3 7:30 Session	4 9:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle	5 6:30pm - Bells	6	7
8 CHILDREN'S DAY Worship Service 9:30am 10:30am Youth Program Team Deacons Meeting	9 Knit Togethers 10am	10 10:30 - Stewardship Noontime Meal Prep @ 2:30pm 7:30pm Worship, Operations	11	12	13	14 Food Pantry @ 9am  Youth Group @ 12pm
15 Worship Service 9:30am 2pm Memorial Service for Marie Anderson	16 7:30 Education	17	18 10:30 am Prayer Shawl  12pm Sr. Lunch Bunch	19	20	21  5pm - Youth Group
22 Worship Service 9:30am	23 Knit Togethers 10am	24 7:30pm Mission Communications	25	26	27	28 9am Food Pantry 2pm Youth Group 6pm-Jan Peek Dinner
29 Worship Service 9:30am	30	1 9am - Youth VBS Training @ St. Andrews 7:30pm - Session	2 9am - Youth VBS Training @ St. Andrews 10:30 Prayer Shawl	3 9am - Youth VBS Training @ St. Andrews	4 Office Closed	5
		<b>JULY</b>				
6 Worship Service 9:30am	7	8	9	10	11	12 9am Food Pantry
<b>Vacation Bible School 2014 @ St. Andrews ~ 9-12am</b>						