

DATES TO NOTE:

November 2
All Saints' Sunday
Communion Brunch
following the services
4:30pm Confirmation Class

November 9
4:30pm MS Youth Group
6:30pm HS Youth Group

November 16
Alternative Giving Fair
Knit Togethers Show & Tell
4:30pm Confirmation Class

November 23
Alternative Giving Fair
4:30pm MS Youth Group
6:30pm HS Youth Group

November 30
Advent I
9:30am - Church School
Tree Decorating

The Disciple

Hopeful Anticipation

Sunday, October 19 was an exciting day that heralds an even more exciting future ahead. We (Chip and Tami) appreciated the overwhelming vote of confidence in us to be your pastors and a sense of trust that God has called us all together to do wonderful ministry for our church and in our wider community. We enthusiastically answer your call to us and say, "We do!" We are looking forward to what God has in store as we live into this new vision of shared ministry and what it will mean for all of our work together.



The vision for co-pastors is one part of an overall vision for our church to be and make disciples. That was Jesus' commission to his first disciples and continues to be his commission to all of his followers, including us, the Body of Christ called First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown. In order to live into that calling and commission even more in 2015, we are building on the strengths of our church in four specific ways. Along with the **co-pastor leadership model**, we continue to build a **sustainable youth ministry** with a new youth coordinator to be hired soon and regular meetings and events for our middle school and high school youth. We are increasing our **mission giving and programs**, both to the larger Presbyterian Church's ministry and by preparing and sending our youth and adults on mission trips. And we continue to maintain a **healthy and hospitable building and grounds** as a primary place where we gather together and welcome people and groups who need our space to find healing and wholeness. Leadership, Youth, Mission and Place – four ways we can be and make disciples.

The strength of our ministry this year, in the past and heading into the future is the generosity we practice so faithfully. **We are a giving church!** As we think about our commitment to our shared ministry, the Stewardship Commission invites us to increase our giving in one of two ways:

- 1) increase your pledge by 17% over your pledge in 2014, or
- 2) increase your pledge by 1% of your income.

Either way is an invitation to live your faith and generosity. Both ways may seem big, but that is exactly the sort of hope we have for our faith and our ministry – that God will do some big things through us as we grow in our own faith and in our opportunities to be and make disciples.

As you consider God's call to discipleship and generosity in your life, we hope that you will make a number of commitments:

- **To pray** that your giving reflects God's generosity and your discipleship.
- **To give financially** in such a way that it leads to deeper trust in God and gratitude for God's blessings.
- **To offer your time and talents** as part of your journey of discipleship to share God's love through our ministry.

Thank you for your vision and faith, your leadership and dedicated participation. All of these will sustain, build and take our ministry into ever new directions of faithfulness to God's vision for our church. We are blessed to be in ministry with you, to increase our own financial giving to ministry with you and to grow in faith together.

In gratitude and hopeful anticipation,

Chip Tami

FPCY YOUTH

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, November 23

CONFIRMATION CLASS meets on Sundays at 4:30 - November 2 and November 16

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP 4:30-6, November 9 & November 23

Make Your Footprints, Make Your Path

What can you tell about someone from the footprints they leave on a muddy path? Sometimes you can tell what kinds of shoes they were wearing; the size might tell how old they might be. Otherwise, you can't tell much.

But in other areas of life—even the ones you *don't* see— you leave footprints that say a lot about you.

What do you want yours to say? What kind of path do yours make?

Tip: Wear some awesome socks....

Check the website for Pastor Chip's message. www.fpcyouth.weebly.com

Church School "Chalkboard"

We've had a busy and exciting month in Church School!

Slight change in schedule for our youngest treasures. We've taken Pre-K out of the rotation and have them set up in their own classroom (Room 7) to enable them to experience a consistent staff and classroom setting with their own Pre-K Spark curriculum. Kindergarten through 4th grade will be finishing the *Burning Bush* rotation and on November 9th will begin *The Lord is My Shepherd* rotation. Grades 5th/6th Connect continue with their fabulous program and have covered topics including Creation, Fall (not the season folks!), Suffering, The Flood and Tower of Babel. How amazing is that!! 7th and up Re:form have been discussing Creed and wrestling with questions such as Does God exist? Is he male? How can God be three in one? Does God still create stuff today?.... Phenomenal!!!! This stuff is great!



We have begun talking to the children about the Alternative Giving Fair, the mission it represents and how it helps others. On November 30th we will be making handcrafted decorations for the Tree decorating as well as making crafts, books, color sheets and cards for our mission ministry.

With Thanksgiving around the corner may we say a big "Thank You" to our dedicated church school staff for volunteering their time, talent and care and of course parents for sharing your wonderful children with us to befriend, teach and nurture each week in our church school classrooms.

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Jen Dixon and Liza Placido, Co-Superintendents

Christmas Alternative Giving Market - November 16 & 23

Back by popular demand, our annual Fair Trade and Heifer Christmas Market, which is sponsored by our Sunday School, for an International mission project. Mission Commission also supports this project. We will be selling shares of Heifer animals to be given to poor women, families, and villages to enable them to work and lift themselves out of the worst of their poverty. "Everybody got a water buffalo?", if not come see us and you may even get a song with your water buffalo on November 23.

We will also be selling some wonderful handcrafted gifts such as jewelry, Christmas Ornaments, Authentic Fair Trade coffee, jams, and other interesting items. Do your Christmas shopping with us and you get more "bang for your buck"; a present to give to a loved one or friend and a gift to the world--to craft cooperatives in poor communities working their way out poverty by selling their handmade goods at a fair price. Truly a gift for Jesus' birthday. We will have items from Peru, India, Palestinian Territories, Phillipines, Kenya and a number of other countries. Celtic Christmas songs CDs will also be for sale. They were made by musicians in the Presbyterian church at large and donated to raise money for the Living Waters project. You may remember that we were raising funds last year to help with the maintenance of our Living Water system at the Big House Orphanage in Haiti. This is the same organization that provides the systems and helps to train locals to run and maintain them. Parents, we hope that you bring your kids to the market and talk with them ahead of time about our market: how these gifts are a present for Jesus' birthday that helps people, using your Christmas money in less commercial ways, and giving the world a present all at the same time. You can ask Heidi Haring if you need information to share with your kids. You can also look at the www.SERRV.org website for stories of artisans and information about fair trade. We hope to see kids of all ages; 1--101+ there!

Pledging in 3D

Shared during Worship on October 5, 2014

Our theme for this year's pledge campaign is Pledging in 3D. This is a reference to how we experience all of what God's creation offers us. We experience things most fully in all three dimensions. We want to focus on the following three concepts: Discipleship, Discovery and Donations.

Our hopes for 2015 include four principle items: supporting the possibility of a co-pastor leadership team, increasing our youth ministry budget, increasing our mission giving, and continuing to maintain our property well. All of this increases our budget and the level of giving necessary to make these hopes a reality for our church.

However, stewardship starts well before budgets or percentage increases in pledging. In fact, stewardship is not all about money. It is not about meeting a budget. **The Church is not in the balancing budget business but in the disciple making business.**

Stewardship is about being faithful disciples, caring for and managing all God has given us. It is the grateful response to Christ's redeeming love. As disciples we are called to be generous, using our gifts and resources to reveal God's Kingdom here on earth.

It is hard to imagine anyone who is serious about discipleship giving one or two percent of his or her income to God's work through the church. It is equally difficult to imagine a tither who isn't serious about discipleship. So, as we begin this season of stewardship, let me invite us to reflect on our giving as a part of our discipleship. How does our giving reflect our discipleship? How does our generosity show God's generous gifts?

How are we living the full life of a disciple in the way we give? How are we giving in 3D? Yes, we want to increase our budget. Yes, we want pledges to meet our financial hopes for 2015. **But the biggest goal is that our giving would reflect our discipleship and our gratitude for all that God has blessed us with, that we are following Christ's call to be disciples and to make disciples of all ages.**

Exciting possibilities are in store for us at First Presbyterian in 2015! We ask you to prayerfully consider your pledge for next year.

Cathy Talbot



New in the Church Library

Best-selling children's book author Nancy Tillman's new book is *The Heaven of Animals*. Written in rhymed couplets and accompanied by beautiful illustrations, it depicts a magical place where the love of a pet lives on. Young children faced with the loss of a treasured pet will be comforted by her writing:

*But the love that you have for your animal friends
is always the same—that love never ends...
And when angels whisper in animal ears,
it is your voice that each animal hears.*

Carol Jensen, Church Librarian

Senior Lunch Bunch

Join us for our Thanksgiving Feast in the Fellowship Hall Wednesday, November 19 at 12 noon. All are invited, but you must sign up on the Senior Bulletin Board. Cost is \$18 per person. Reservations must be made by November 16. Come enjoy good food and fellowship. On December 17 we are going to the Dinner Theatre. If you have made your reservations, the second payment is due to Pat now.

Pat and John Prauda for the Lunch Bunch

Mission Commission



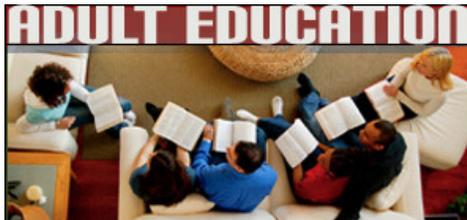
The Mission Commission is excited about our Peace and Justice Service. Reverend Margery Rossi will be preaching (see the note under Adult Education). The Mission Commission has dedicated our portion of the Peace & Global Witness Offering to Rural & Migrant Ministry (RMM), an organization that “works for the creation of a just rural New York State.” The Hudson River Presbytery has been “in covenant” with RMM for over 25 years.

To get a sense of the situation faced by many farmworkers in this country, the Mission Commission encourages everyone to see the film “Food Chains.” This is a film that shows the plight of farmworkers by focusing on the Coalition of Immokalee workers. On Saturday November 22 at 7 PM the film will be shown at the Quad Cinema in NYC, and following the film Gerardo Reyes will be speaking. Connie and Tami had an opportunity to hear Gerardo at the Presbytery’s Just Food conference in October, and were impressed with his courage and simple dignity.

Watch the trailer online: <http://www.foodchainsfilm.com/>

Interested in seeing the film? Some of us are planning to go to see it on November 22. You can get tickets beginning November 19 at <http://www.quadcinema.com/>

Sunday Morning Adult Education



Making Sense of the Bible:

Rediscovering the Power of Scripture for Today

Join us for coffee (or tea!) and conversation about the Bible, guided by the insights of Methodist pastor Adam Hamilton. This final session of the study wrestles with issues of sexual morality. Rev. Hamilton provides some scholarly background to the scriptures while bearing witness to the gospel with his wise and generous pastoral heart.

Sunday, November 2, 9:30 am in the Lounge

Peace & Justice Sunday

Margery Rossi will discuss her recent trip to Israel/Palestine to attend the PCUSA Peacemaking Program's Mosaic of Peace conference. Conference participants visited ancient sacred sites where Jesus walked with his original disciples, and juxtaposed those scriptural stories with the realities of life in this war-torn land for its modern day inhabitants.

What is the modern-day calling to discipleship in this context? How are we called to promote peace and justice? Join us to explore these and other questions about discipleship.

Sunday, November 9, 9:30 am AND

Sermon for Lunch at 12 Noon in the lounge (*sandwiches provided ~ \$5 donation requested*)

Going Deeper: Our Call to Do Justice

Margery will continue to lead our November Adult Education sessions, using a new curriculum created in the Hudson River Presbytery, called “Going Deeper.” Each week, we will address a justice issue and imagine an ideal world for a particular family, wondering how we, as church, might make that ideal world (or kingdom of God) more real. Join us for provocative, thoughtful conversation. Bring your imagination!

Sundays, November 16 & 23, 9:30 am in the lounge

First Sunday of Advent

Study to be announced

Sunday, November 30

Spirit on the Move! The Messiah is Coming!

On Saturday evening, November 8th at 7:30, the First Presbyterian Church fourteenth annual Concert Series will present the voices of the Antioch Baptist Church Choir. This evening of rousing, hand clapping, spirit-filled music will kick off the 2014-2015 concert season, and promises to inspire even Presbyterians to clap along! The evening will feature a journey through the history of Gospel music, featuring the original Gospel songs, and then their modern, contemporary interpretations. Please join us for this joyous evening of song. The Antioch Choir are long time friends of our choir, and we can testify, that this choir can SING!! A reception in fellowship hall will follow the performance.

On Saturday evening, December 6th at 7:30, the Concert Series will offer its Advent Concert. The first half of the concert will feature Handel's Messiah, (the Christmas Portion) with guest professional soloists, Adult Choir and orchestra under the direction of Simona Frenkel. Handel's Messiah is a beloved musical Christmas tradition and arguably the most popular piece of music in the world. The Christmas portion of the Messiah follows the story of Jesus'

birth from early prophesy, to Bethlehem and the stable, and ends with the glorious Hallelujah chorus. The second half of the concert will feature popular instrumental and vocal music from the musically rich years between Handel and Mozart. Start off your Christmas traditions with this glorious musical celebration of bringing hope into the world. A reception will follow the concert in Fellowship Hall.

The Concert Series is supported by the generosity of its Patrons. To be a Patron of this musical outreach, a gift of \$50.00 or more may be given to the Church with a note that it is for the Concert Series. Checks may be placed in the offering plate or given to the office.

Christie Herman, for the Concert Series



**Gospel Concert
November 8
7:30pm**

The Ministry of Our Deacons

*Reach out in love.
Reach out in love.
Reach out in love and
Give your hand, your heart,
Your everything the Lord did give you.
Reach out in love.*

~ by Sharon Dale

Twenty-five years ago I sat at the piano in church trembling. I was about to have my first experience accompanying the children at Vacation Bible School. I was scared. I was certain that I would make mistakes...make a fool of myself. I can't play the piano, I thought. Everyone will find out. Trembling, I asked God to help me. Surprise! I played, the children sang and we all had a wonderful two weeks. So I'm still not a piano virtuoso, but the children didn't care and the songs we have learned over the years have changed my heart and shaped theirs as well.

Reach out in Love! Reach out in Love! Why? Because we have been called – all of us- called by Jesus. We are called, just as the first disciples, to come and follow, to reach out, to serve, to Build the Kingdom, to love. That is why our hearts respond and we do it too.

Jesus' message was really very simple. God is our loving Creator and Father of All. Love God. Love each other. This is the only lesson we really need to learn in this lifetime: The Father-

hood of God our Creator and the brotherhood and sisterhood of all mankind.

Isn't this why we have church? Isn't this why we have ministries? Missions? Committees? Stewardship? Planned Giving? Choirs? Clean-ups? Food Pantries? Bible Study? To Build the Kingdom!

We are all an integral part of God's Kingdom – each and EVERY one of us. This month, our Food Pantry would like to be able to deliver good quality, hearty SOUPS to the families we reach out to. There is nothing quite like a bowl of hearty soup as the days get colder and winter approaches to soothe the heart and stomach. Let's continue to serve together, to work together, to reach out in love to all of our brothers and sisters.

Carol Thorne-Gaetani for the Dea-

**Food Pantry
Items-of-the-
Month**

**Canned
Soup or Stew**

~
Frozen Turkey

*(bring to the church
on 11/22 at 8am)*

**Next Dates:
November 8 & 22
9 to 11am**

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



Knitting Groups

Prayer Shawl Group meets Wednesday, November 5 at 9:30 and November 19 at 10:30. Join us!

On October 12 our congregation gave their blessing on 75 blankets that were being given to Project Linus. Cindy gave an overview of the work of Linus. On October 15 at our Prayer Shawl Meeting, more blankets came in, were blessed for a total of 83 blankets given.

Anyone who would like to knit a blanket or who would like to join us in knitting is most welcome. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30 and the third Wednesday of the month at 10:30. Any questions please call Marianna Sherman at 914-737-8294 or Fran Schiel at 914-245-5396.

Knit Togethers meet next on November 10 & 24 and December 8, 2014

All are invited to see our annual Amazing Show & Tell on Sunday, November 16. Mittens, scarves, baby blankets & sweaters, and lap blankets will be displayed. See this amazing and colorful exhibit of our year's work; all are to be given to others before Christmas.

All who knit or crochet are welcome to join us. We plan to continue a busy fall season of knitting hats, scarves, baby blankets, and lap blankets for our December giving.

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:

Peg Bertsch
Deanna Collins
Evelyn & Lynn Fischer
Brian Froehlich
Jim Gerth
Phillip Gresh
Mary Hamblen
Heidi Haring
Ken Hardy
Eleanor Hibben
Marie Hodgkinson
Nellie Keller
Caryl Kerber
Bonnie Konnerth
Kay Lieberman
Dave Monk
Genevieve Palmer
Fran Proceller
Dixie Robinson
Ruthann Scheffer
Kim Sherman
Dottie Slechta

Jan Peek Meal

Jan Peek House is a shelter for homeless men & women, run by Caring for the Homeless of Peekskill. On the 4th Saturday of each month we provide dinner at Jan Peek. 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 Coccodrilli (245-6475) to talk about it. Thanks to Angelyn & George Forbes-Freeze and the students of Monroe College for the October Dinner.

The November dinner will be prepared by the McGrath Family and the December dinner by the Gilbert family. Call Bud to volunteer for future months.

Noontime Meal

FPCY's Noontime Meal preparers will mobilize again on November 11 at Peekskill Presbyterian Church at 2:30pm. 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 Andy Mavian (914-788-4198).

Church History - The 1960's

- Our 16th pastor was George N. Barford (February 1950 - March, 1966), his wife Barbara and their four children, Brian, Carolyn, Rebecca and Mark. The church and the community were saddened by the death of Barbara after a long illness. Later, Rev. Barford married Miss Rose Grano.
 - In March 1961, through the malfunctioning of the oil burner, the walls and interior of the church building were covered with soot. Samuel Bunyea & Sons painted the walls and woodwork, two coats, for \$2,230. Insurance covered \$1,025.
 - In June, the ceiling in the old Parish Hall was lowered and new light fixtures put in. Lighting fixtures were installed in the new addition, as well as new furniture and equipment.
 - The church received a loan of \$25,000 from the Board of National Mission
 - The annual church family picnic was held at the Presbyterian Conference grounds at Denton Lake, NY.
 - The Clerk of Session reported at the annual meeting a membership of 477. The Executive Committee presented a budget of \$35,730 for 1960.
 - Thirty new members were received at the service on November 28, 1965. The Couples Club was very active.
 - In May, a confirmation class of 27 young people and 6 adults joined the church.
- January 1966, the church annual report for 1965 listed a budget of \$57,800. Staff salaries \$29,000 including pastor's salary (\$9,000) plus manse and auto expense. Benevolences were \$10,650. Membership as of December 31, 1965 was 720.

Offering Hospitality

COFFEE HOUR

Join us for Communion Brunch on November 2 after each Service. Please bring something to share and plan to stay a little while longer and chat with friends. Help with coffee hour is always needed. Check with Pat or check the book on the table by the goodies to sign up. We all love a cup of coffee, so any help would be appreciated!

Do you want to receive the Disciple by e-mail only? Send an e-mail to Kim in the office and we'll save the stamp and the paper!

Dinner Dance

We will be having a dinner dance for the FPCY congregation on November 15 from 7-10 pm at Ceola Manor in Jefferson Valley. All are invited. There will be seating for adults and also an area for youth group (grades 6-12). The DJ will be sure to mix the music up to keep the youth, the old folks, and everyone in between happy and dancing. This is a great chance to get to know each other a little better. Price for dinner and dancing is \$45/adult, \$23/youth for tickets purchased by October 30. For tickets ordered after October 30, the price will be \$50 and \$25. Last day to purchase tickets is November 10 (or when sold out). You can buy tickets at the church office, by putting a check in the plate or the mail (dinner dance noted on memo) or online at our online giving site www.fpcyorktown.org/giving (using the "other" line). We had a great time at the last dance – let's make this another night to remember!

Are You Connected?

Are you getting all the news of FPCY and messages from Chip in your email inbox? You can sign up for our eNewsletter right from our home page: www.fpcyorktown.org to get your name on our mailing list.

Are you on Facebook? "Like us" and get our updates in your news feed. Just search for us on Facebook or click the Facebook icon on the homepage to get connected.

Operations Report

Fall Work Party: We had a very successful Fall Work Party with over 30 adults and four Boy Scouts participating. All of our planned work was completed. Much work was done in the gardens and inside the church facilities. The big addition this year was the complete rehab of the "hill" at the corners of Rt's 132 & 202. After preparation of the area, 20 flats of pachysandra (approximately 2000 plants) were planted. A stone channel was installed to allow drainage of water from the parking lot without erosion of the soil or pachysandra (we hope!). A very big Thank You is offered to all who participated..

Other Maintenance & Improvement Efforts:

We are continuing work in the balcony of the Sanctuary to repair chips and peeling of paint. This is a huge job as all sanding must be done by hand to minimize dust. We are working on small sections at a time so that we can completely clean-up following our work efforts. A big thank you is offered to Jose who has done the bulk of the work to date.

We have installed CFL bulbs in the Board/Music Room to improve the lighting, make it more consistent across the room and save energy. Thanks to Tricia Dineen for the suggestion and for working with Jose to complete the change of the bulbs. We are looking into installing LED lighting in other sections of the building to minimize energy usage and cost. We are also looking into automatic lighting shut-offs if no one is using the rooms. This latter item will likely apply only to Fellowship Hall, the Gathering Space and the kitchen.

New Bilco Cellar Doors have been installed at the basement en-

trance under Room #1. The old doors had become dangerous as they no longer would latch properly in the raised position. The new doors have an air plunger which holds the doors open. The doors have to be "pulled down" to close them. Another set of Bilco Cellar Doors will soon be installed at the basement entrance under the Sanctuary. This will further improve our buildings and make these entrances much more safe.



Our pest control efforts under our contract with J.P. McHale is proving to be an excellent investment.

We have chosen two Kousa Dogwood trees to honor Craig Hibben. These trees will be provided by the Hibben family and others. These trees were planted by Dick Seymour and Bud Coccodrilli.

Two Pinky-Winky Hydrangeas were planted on either side of the entrance sidewalk leading from the paved parking lot. These trees honor the memory of Ken and Marianna Sherman's son, Doug.

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.

Thanks!

Dick Seymour, Chair of Operations & Facilities Coordinator

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The Disciple

November 2014

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office@fpcyorktown.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:30

Pastor

Rev. Chip Low

Parish Associate

Rev. Tami Seidel



office@fpcyorktown.org



@fpcyorktown



Facebook.com/fpcyorktown

November

2 Worship Services 8:30am & 10:45am 9:30 Church School Adult Ed 4:30pm Confirmation Class	7:30 Church School Committee	9:30am Covenant 7:30pm Session	5 9:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle 7pm Covenant	6 6:45pm - Bells 8pm - Choir	7	8 Food Pantry 7:30pm Gospel Concert
9 Worship Services 8:30am & 10:45am 9:30 Church School Adult Ed 4:30 Middle School Youth Group 6:30 High School Youth Group	10 (office closed) Knit Togethers 10am	11 (office closed) Noontime Meal Prep @ 2:30pm 7:30pm Worship	12 7pm Covenant	13 10am Faith Study 6:45pm - Bells 8pm - Choir	14	15 7pm - Dinner/Dance
16 Alternative Giving Fair Knit Togethers Show & Tell Worship Services 8:30am & 10:45am 9:30 Church School Adult Ed 12pm Deacon Meeting	17 7:30 Education	18 9:30am Covenant 7:30pm Operations Mission	19 10:30 am Prayer Shawl Stewarship 12pm Senior Lunch Bunch 7pm Covenant	20 10am Faith Study 6:45pm - Bells 8pm - Choir	21	22 9am Food Pantry Jan Peek Meal by the McGrath Family
23 Alternative Giving Fair Worship Services 8:30am & 10:45am 9:30 Church School Adult Ed 4:30 Middle School Youth Group	24 Knit Togethers 10am	25 9:30am Covenant 7:30pm Communications	26 10:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle	27 Happy Thanksgiving!	28 (office closed)	29