



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

The First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown

February 1, 2015

LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH

2014

THE SESSION

Class of 2014

Tricia Dineen
Christie Herman
Peter Marsh
David Monk
Dick Seymour
Nance Thompson
Marisa Swift, Youth Ruling Elder
Adam Blaney, Youth Ruling Elder

Class of 2015

Tim Chin
Robin Corpolongo
Marsha Henderson
Bruce Johnson
Connie Knapp
Tim Lupfer

Class of 2016

Donna Gresh
Beth Gruber
Jessica Mayes
Eugene McGrath
Ian Spence
Debbie Bernardini

Clerk of Session: Gordon Braudaway
Moderator: Chip Low

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2014

Kathy Winsted
Karen Mack
Jane Amato
Heidi Haring
Kim Friscia, Youth Deacon
Amanda Monk, Youth Deacon

Class of 2015

John Chessa
Todd Child
Wanda Diaz
Christine Lazarus

Class of 2016

Carl Anderson
Cynthia Fritz
Carol Thorne-Gaetani
Chuck Radke

Moderator: Christine Lazarus
Vice-Moderator: Jane Amato
Secretary: Cynthia Fritz
Financial Secretary: John Chessa

AGENDA

OPENING PRAYER

Moderator Tami Seidel

READING OF THE CALL TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Clerk Gordon Braudaway

"The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown will be held on Sunday, February 1, 2015, at 12 noon in Fellowship Hall: to elect one Ruling Elder, class of 2017; to elect one Youth Deacon, class of 2015; to elect five Members-at-Large to the Nominating Committee; to receive the Annual Reports, including the report of the Auditors; and to conduct any other business which may properly come before the Meeting."

REPORT OF MINUTES READERS FOR 2014 CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Minutes of February 2, 2014 Annual Meeting

Ann Timmons, Lisa Eliasson

Minutes of October 19, 2014 Special Meeting

Ann Timmons, Nance Thompson

Minutes of December 14, 2014 Special Meeting

Ellen Miles, Bill Herman

APPOINT MINUTES READERS FOR 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

NECROLOGY REPORT (page 5) AND MEMORIAL PRAYER

ANNUAL REPORTS

	page
Report of the Pastor -----	Teaching Elder Chip Low -----
Report of the Parish Associate -----	Teaching Elder Tami Seidel -----
Report of the Session -----	Clerk Gordon Braudaway -----
Nominating Committee (Action Item)-----	Ruling Elder Robin Corpobongo -----
Personnel Commission -----	Ruling Elder Bruce Johnson -----
Congregational Life Commission -----	Ruling Elder Tim Chin -----
Communications Commission -----	Ruling Elder Donna Gresh -----
Worship Commission-----	Ruling Elder Christie Herman -----
Education Commission -----	Ruling Elder David Monk -----
Mission Commission-----	Ruling Elders Connie Knapp and Nance Thompson -----
Report of the Deacons-----	Deacon Moderator Christine Lazarus -----
Stewardship Commission -----	Ruling Elder Jessica Mayes -----
Operations Commission-----	----- 19
Financial Reports-----	----- See Financial Booklet

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

PRAAYER AND BENEDICTION

Moderator Chip Low

REPORT OF THE PASTOR

As FPC Yorktown are called to connect with God, one another and the world. As I reflect on 2014 and our mission statement, I am thankful. I am thankful for the multitude of ways we established, built, strengthened and lived our connections with God, one another and the world. I am thankful to our deacons and elders for their leadership. I am thankful for all who served on our commissions and committees and in all the leadership roles of our ministry. I am thankful for the many ways we made disciples and grew as disciples of Jesus Christ. I'm thankful for our staff and their leadership. But, lest we make this ministry about us, I'm thankful to God for working in us, around us, through us to extend the love and grace, peace and justice of Jesus Christ to our community and world. Thank you for the ways you, reader, opened yourself up to God and joined us in ministry.

The Year 2014 was full of questions for me, questions that go to the heart of our ministry's mission and purpose, questions that invite discernment and listening for the Spirit of God, and questions that send us into the future God wants for us.

- The session wrestled with the question, ***What is going to help FPCY move forward with vision and faith toward greater engagement and growth in our ministry and mission?***
- We implemented a new curriculum for church school with an important question: ***What will engage our children and families to grow in faith and discipleship together beyond Sunday morning?***
- We continued our new plan for youth ministry with, ***What will build ownership in the congregation of our ministry with youth, and what impact does the good news have in the life of our young people?***
- In our finances, we continue to ask, ***What will empower people to do ministry with the abundance God has given us?***

In their unique ways, these are all questions of connection, and they invite us to think about, wrestle with, live into a way of life that affects us at deep levels and lives our ministry with connection to one another. They ask us to reflect on the purpose of church. They encourage us to own the ministry, to open ourselves to new possibilities, to see with fresh eyes what we have overlooked or neglected, to imagine a way forward with all the blessings God has given us and to hear God's call on our lives to live the good news faithfully in this time and place as FPCY. Anyone can say we need a new curriculum. Anyone can say youth are important. Anyone can say they like the pastors. Anyone can say we need stronger mission, and yet by their actions show that those are just words. It's when we ask the big questions that invite us into a way of life and let ourselves be molded again and again into who God is calling us to be that those ideas become real ministry which we do from the core of ourselves as beloved children of God and our purpose for being church. That's when the good news of God's love and call has taken hold in our lives. In so many ways, it has!

In the pages that follow, I would invite you to keep in mind our mission statement. ***Connecting with God, One Another and the World.*** Where do you see us doing that? Where do you see us being commissions and committees that do not act alone, but overlap in our work to love every person at every age with all of who we are? How are we making disciples who are connecting with God, one another and the world through ***every*** commission's work? I would invite you to look for answers to these questions in the reports, celebrating what we have done and listening for ways we still need to grow into who God is calling us to be and what God is calling us to do.

We have much to celebrate in our ministry, and much yet to do. In the midst of our successes and failures, the good news is that God has been faithful all along the way, and God will be faithful in the coming year as we ask ourselves, "***What does shared ministry look like in 2015?***" I give thanks for our faith, our abundance, our dedication, our hope, our actions, our willingness to go on this journey together and to be the Body of Christ in this time and place.



REPORT OF THE PARISH ASSOCIATE

2014 in 4-D

From my perspective at the end of my second year as your Parish Associate, 2014 has been a year of ***Discernment, Dialogue, Decision*** and continued ***Dedication***. We may have pledged in 3-D, but 2014 has been a year of living our faith in 4-D!

In January Chip and I invited the Session into a conversation about the possibility of a new model of pastoral leadership for the church and what that might mean for our ministry and mission, our work together. Thus began a 5-month time of discernment, praying, listening for the Spirit's guidance, dreaming and talking with each other. This then led to a further time of discernment in the fall with the whole congregation and lots more prayer, imagination and conversation. All of this talking and listening and prayer culminated in the congregation's decision on October 19 to move in a new direction, to hire Chip and I to be your co-pastors, and to explore even further what it means to be partners in ministry in Christ's church here in Yorktown.

Even as this larger journey of discernment, dialogue and decision was taking place, the many ministries of our church continued to do their work faithfully, to grow and to change with the Spirit's help. In my role as part-time Parish Associate (12-15 hours/week), I provided pastoral support to the Education Commission and Deacons, helped Chip and the deacons provide pastoral care and communion visits to our church family, and participated in worship planning and leadership. This past year I have been particularly active in the area of Christian education and faith formation:

- Resourcing and supporting the Church School Committee as it decided to use and then introduce new curriculum for elementary-age children and youth.
- Helping coordinate FPCY's involvement in the Yorktown Community Vacation Bible School.
- Resourcing the Adult Education Committee as it expanded its offerings for adult faith formation.

I am especially excited about the debut of the Covenant Bible Study. We have two groups of 12-14 adults who have covenanted together over a 24-week study to read scripture daily, pray for one another, and meet weekly to discuss and dive even deeper into the Bible and our faith together. We are only 1/3 of the way through, but this experience has already been incredibly enriching to our faith and discipleship!

Throughout 2014 and as we move into 2015, I am grateful for the dedication of so many in the FPCY congregation. In addition to your thoughtful and prayerful discernment, you have shared your lives and your faith with our children, youth and adults through the educational ministries of our church; you have prayed for, cooked meals, written cards and visited many in need of God's care and love; you have shared your time, energy and talents in mission projects, building maintenance and worship. For all of wonderful ways, we have served God, one another and our community together in 2014, thank you and thanks be to God!

This will be my last annual report to you as your Parish Associate – Hallelujah! I am blessed and honored to serve as your Co-Pastor in 2015, and I can't wait to discover what God will continue to accomplish through us as we live forward into our faith and ministry together!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jami". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the letters "J" and "a" being particularly prominent.

REPORT OF THE SESSION

2014 Statistics

MEETINGS:

10 Regular Session
8 Special Session
1 Session / Deacons Combined
2 Session e-mail Advisors
5 Congregational (1 Annual, 3 Special, 1 Congregational Forum)

Active Members as of December 31, 2013: 375

<u>Gains</u>		<u>Losses</u>	
Profession of Faith	11	Deaths	3
Reaffirmation of Faith	8	Removed	3
Letter of Transfer	1		

Active Members as of December 31, 2014: 389

MEMBERS RECEIVED BY:

PROFESSION OF FAITH	REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH	LETTER OF TRANSFER
Josie Buckhout	Anna DeFeo	Mary Vezzuto
Emma Capichioni	Kathleen Carrozza	
Samantha Drysdale	Christina Gardineer	
Nicole Gardineer	David Lee	
Ellen Gruber	Carol Hannah	
Justin Leftwich	Jennifer Costello	
Gregory Mack	Richard Cordone	
Jade Pagel	Alison Cordone	
John Rainieri		
Timothy Rishel		
Julia Wanamaker		

BAPTISMS

July 6	Jack Harley Haring
July 13	Liana Kathleen Cordone
October 19	Joseph Edward Mayes
November 19	Lia Marie Caroprese
December 14	Mary Beth (Fecko) Vezzuto (Adult Baptism)

DEATHS

Janet Nelson
Craig Hibben
Cal Weber

REMOVED FROM MEMBERSHIP

Peter Iovanella
Michele Iovanella
Frank Mosca

Submitted by Gordon Braudaway, Clerk of Session

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

*Submitted by: Robin Corpolongo, Nance Thompson, Ruling Elders; Heidi Haring, Deacon;
Members at Large: Beth Coccodrilli, Ruth Deemer, Bill Herman, Amanda Monk, John Rainieri, Ken Sherman
Clerk of Session: Gordon Braudaway*

Officers of the Corporation:

President:	Marsha Henderson
Vice-president:	Ian Spence
Treasurer:	Frank Hodgkinson
Secretary:	Gordon Braudaway
Auditors:	Ed De Jong (2015)
	Michele Mosca (2016)
	Emily Monk (2017)
Counters:	Ruth Deemer
	Kathy Hodgkinson
	Pam Darreff
	Carol Annacone
	Debbie Hager
	Carol Myers
	Norean Radke
	Fran Schiel
Financial Secretary:	Kim Wertz
Treasurers:	Tom Travis
	Frank Hodgkinson
	Beth Gruber

Ruling Elders Class of 2017:

Kirk Larsen
Kathy Winsted
David Ramage
Suzy Rishel
Linda Swift

Youth Ruling Elders Class of 2015:

Josie Buckhout
Julia Wanamaker

Deacons Class of 2017:

Bud Coccodrilli
Debbie Hager
Marianna Sherman
John Winget

Youth Deacons Class of 2015

Emma Capichioni
Justin Leftwich

Action Item: Elect Justin Leftwich as a youth deacon, Class of 2015.

PERSONNEL COMMISSION

The Personnel Commission acts as the human resources department of a corporation does, dealing with all aspects of the management of our employees and their needs. Much of what we do is of a confidential nature and therefore cannot be included in the annual report. When there is a need for hiring someone to fill a vacancy, or someone new is being hired, one of our functions is to take the lead in the hiring process, or assist one of the other commissions with the hiring process. We also conduct annual reviews of each employee, using a survey that is sent to members of the congregation who have interaction with an employee, asking for their input regarding that employee. This past year we revised the schedule of fees for costs associated with weddings, funerals, and substitute employees, which had not been revised in many years. We also worked on revising job descriptions for all employees and updating employment agreements. Terms of call for Pastors Charles Low and Tamara Seidel were approved at a special meeting of the congregation on October 19, 2014.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMISSION

Members: Ellen de Jong and Tim Chin co-chairs; Ruth Deemer, Karen Gerth, Ann Everingham, Louise Fang, Pat Prauda, Melissa Shaughnessy, Ryann Shaughnessy, Sue Mintzer, Kathy Winsted, Rita Child, Diane Hawlk, Lisa Eliasson, Barbara Wilkens, Carol Myers, Caroline Awuor, Deborah Bernadini, Adam Blaney

Purpose: We extend our hospitality to our church's members, visitors and strangers. We plan, participate in, and help organize events and activities for our extended church families to socialize, meet new people and unite our two services. "Don't neglect to open up your homes to guests, because by doing this some have been hosts to angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2)

May our hospitality reach out to angels and all, guided by God's grace and love!

2014 On-going Support Activities

- **Communion Sunday Brunch** (1st Sunday of the month) we encourage our entire church congregation to help contribute bringing in their special goodies and cooking to share. We have many fabulous bakers and foodies in our congregation that we look forward and give thanks for their continued sharing.
- **Sunday Coffee Hour time** after our Sunday services we look forward to sharing continued fellowships with our congregation and visitors. Coffee, refreshments and snacks are provided by our volunteers that set-up and cleanup to make it all happen. So please lend a hand in signing up to support this special time.

Special Thanks to Ellen for her commission service and leadership, and to Barbara and Carol as they exit from our commission. To Pat for her exceptional support and much appreciation to each and every Congregational Life commission member for their continued time and support.

2014 Highlight Events

We are so fortunate to have volunteers that are willing and able to share their time and talents in support for many of our church/community support events. Here are some events our team has had the pleasure in supporting, as we look forward to the upcoming year to continue and build upon:

Special Events: **Easter Sunrise Breakfast** (Apr) early service in Downing Park and Breakfast back at church; visiting **Home Coming** weekend, **Progressive Dinner** (May/Jun) a big thanks to the Ellen de Jong for hosting Hors d'hoeuvres, and to the Chessa, Coccodrillis, Fangs, de Jongs, Andersens, Wingets, and Mills for their hosting homes, and to the core planning team of Louise and Ellen; another fabulous **Parish Picnic** co-ordinated by Ann (Sep); 4th annual **Blessing of the Animals**(Oct), Fabulous **Ceola Dinner & Dance** coordinated by Kathy(Nov), **Special Presbytery Meeting** (Dec)

Concerts (Feb, Spring, Xmas) wonderful music performed by our local members and professionals. Special décor and foodies don't go unnoticed as we enjoy the before, during and after fellowships.

Youth Events support: "**Confirmation meets Session**" (April); celebrating "**Children's Sunday**" (June)

Church events supporting our **Annual Congregation meeting**(Feb); **Movie Night "I AM"**(Feb); **Usher Ministry Meeting**(Feb); **New Member Brunch**(Mar); **Ash Wed Service/Brunch**(Mar) "**Home Front**" 8 Mahopac Ave, Amawalk (May); **Congratulations Confirmation Class**(May); **Tim had a Prayer Fellowship w/Cathy Talbot**(May); **Young Adult Volunteers** 1 Year Commission to Lillian Cleveland(Belfast), Allison Stewart(Nashville) and Martin Ngwa(Denver) to their year of service(Aug); **Deacon/Session meeting**(Oct)

Thanks again Ellen, all our supporting congregation, and interested ones whom like to **come join our team!**

*Respectfully Submitted,
Tim Chin*

COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Members: Donna Gresh, chair, Mark Linehan, JoAnne Marsh, Eugene McGrath, Barbara Santagata

Purpose: The Communications Commission manages the internal and external communications of our Church. This includes *The Disciple*, worship bulletins, the website, Facebook, email lists, banners at the corner of Routes 202 and 132, online event calendars, press releases, advertising, brochures, and community fairs. This Commission works with all the other Commissions to further our goal of ***Connecting with God, One Another, and the World.*** We tell the story of the Church's activities, from worship (Christmas and Easter services), to concerts, to Church School, to mission projects, the annual Stewardship Campaign, congregational get-togethers, and many other church events and church mission work.

2014 Activities and Highlights include:

1. **Eugene McGrath** designed a church brochure which describes our church and our activities. We distributed over 200 of these at the October Yorktown Fall Festival (along with a similar number of cards listing the events in the FPCY concert series). We have also put these in the pews in the church (extras can be found in the wall holders in the Narthex).
2. The Commission accomplished a complete update of the church website – both the appearance and the contents of the site. We have met with individual commission chairs (Worship and Music, Mission) to make sure that the website aligns with the goals of the commissions. Blog postings of “current events” (in the “Connections” section of the site, and visible from the home page) average 12 per month and are automatically pushed to our Facebook page. (“Like” us on Facebook!) The home page of the site has an animated and illustrated “slide show” of upcoming events, linked to detailed postings. A typical day may show 5 to 10 different upcoming events or news items, from adult education, to youth group meetings, to fellowship opportunities, to mission activities.
3. **Barbara Santagata and JoAnne Marsh** created dozens of professional and beautiful graphics which were used in our advertisements, blog postings, Facebook announcements and on our home page. These have enhanced our visual presence and create a website that we can truly be proud of.
4. The Commission worked with the Co-Pastor task force to make sure that information on the co-pastor model was available on the website, and that information on the Congregational Meeting and vote, as well as the opportunities for discussion and questions before the meeting were widely disseminated.
5. We have partnered with the youth group team to make sure that youth activities are prominently featured on our home page.
6. **Chip Low** has experimented with advertising for the church on Facebook. He has found that a relatively small expenditure reaches a fairly wide audience. We paid for boosting our Facebook items about the blessing of the animals, the Messiah concert, the Lillian Daniel event, and the Longest Night service, among a few others. As an example, our post listing Christmas Eve services reached over 7800 people because of the paid advertising, with 133 “actions” (clicks, likes, shares, comments, etc.). The cost was \$60. We currently have 221 “likes” of our page, a number of which have come from paid advertising.
7. **Eugene McGrath, Mark Linehan, and Donna Gresh** shared the effort of placing the sermon on the website each week. Eugene put together instructions (which are on the website) for how to automatically get the sermon podcast delivered each week via iTunes. Thanks to **Bill Herman** for his work in uploading the sermon to Google Drive each Sunday so that we can create the podcast. Each week 25-35 people listen to the sermon podcast.
8. **Barbara Santagata** prepared an ad that we placed in the Lions summer concert program.
9. **Eugene McGrath, Mark Linehan, and Donna Gresh** placed notices of church activities on a half-dozen online community calendars, and sent announcements to local newspapers.
10. **Eugene McGrath and Mark Linehan** organized a table to represent the church at the Yorktown Community Fair in October.
11. **Mark Linehan** set up our website so that we can use Google Analytics to monitor visitors’ usage of the website.

We especially thank **Kim Wertz** for taking over all the work of producing *The Disciple*, and for coordinating communications among the weekly worship bulletin, the website, Chip's weekly email, and *The Disciple*. Her professionalism and attention to detail is very much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Gresh

WORSHIP DESIGN COMMISSION

Members: Jane Amato, Gordon Braudaway, Judy Chessa, Ted Crockett, Lisa Eliasson, Simona Frenkel, Karen Gerth, Marsha Henderson, Bill Herman, Christie Herman (Chair), Rev. Chip Low, Sara Mann, Squeegee Mills, Barbara Santagata, Ann Timmons, Barbara Wilkens.

The Worship Design Commission oversees the needs of our faith community as it gathers for worship. The Commission serves as a resource and support to the pastor in developing themes for worship and seeking to design and implement a meaningful, thoughtful and experiential worship experience. This includes but is not limited to reviewing the content and structure of worship, planning and implementing worship themes, designing special services, overseeing the Usher Ministry and lay leaders, making arrangements for the serving of the Lord's Supper, and planning for appropriate decoration of the Sanctuary (such as banners, candles, flowers, themed decor, and greens). Additionally the Worship Design Commission oversees the musical life of our congregation, including service music, Adult Choir, the Adult and Youth Bell Choirs and the Concert Series.

The following special worship themes, events, and services highlighted our year:

- Called to Be Disciples - Getting Out of the Boat
- Lent: Glittering Vices (A theme coordinated with the Education Commission study of the book; Vainglory/Magnanimity, Envy/Love, Avarice/Generosity, Anger/Humility and Gentleness, Lust/Chastity, Glutton/Fasting, Sloth/Stability of Place)
- Ash Wednesday Services
- Palm Sunday
- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday: A Service of Shadows
- Easter Morning Services at 6:30, 8:30, 10:45
- Planned Giving Sunday with guest preacher Charles Barton
- Pentecost and Children's Sunday
- Summer Check-In Service/Hymn Sing\
- What is a Christian Disciple? (A single act of kindness radiates like a beam of light through a prism; kindness comes into the prism, passes through the filter of discipleship and emerges with greater depth, radiating outwards in all directions)
- Parish Day Service and Picnic
- Blessing of the Backpacks
- World Communion Sunday
- Blessing of the Animals
- Presentation by Chip Andrus on Glory to God, the new Presbyterian Hymnal
- Stewardship and Commitment Sunday (Giving in 3-D)
- All Saints Day; Role Models of Discipleship
- Peace and Justice Sunday
- Advent: Disciples Around the Manger: Anna & Simeon (waiting), Elizabeth & Zachariah (recognizing), John the Baptist (preparing), Mary (God-bearer), the Shepherds (seeing and telling), the Wise Men.
- Hanging of the Greens
- Longest Night Service (From darkness into the light)
- Christmas Eve Services (Family Service and two Candlelight Services)
- Lessons and Carols

Highlights of the Year:

The Worship Design Commission continued its collaboration with Pastor Chip Low in his fifth year of ministry with us by partnering for the creation of worship designed to be meaningful, thoughtful, and experience-rich. Special highlights of the year included the reflective special services for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Longest Night services, and the worship themes of Discipleship, and Glittering Vices.

April marked the initiation of an Usher Ministry as an outgrowth of our intentional emphasis on hospitality. It is

composed of over 50 members who value welcoming the visitor and friend alike and who responded to the call to welcome all who come to worship. The Usher Ministry is designed as a leaderless gathering of members of the congregation that provides a consistent and predictable schedule of ushers. Divided into twelve teams of 4-5 members each, six teams care for the 8:30 worship service, and six teams care for the 10:45 service. Many heartfelt thanks to Pat Prauda who “retired” from her many years of service as the sole usher recruiter.

In partnership with the Operations Commission, lighting was installed in the narthex closets, and the lighting controls for the sanctuary were moved next to the “tech central” controls at the rear of the sanctuary, enabling smooth operation of lighting and sound during worship and special events. Many thanks to Benjamin Low and Bill Herman who provide weekly technical coordination during the two worship services.

Christmas Eve services welcomed over 600 worshippers, and inaugurated the new battery-operated candles for the sconces that provided the candle-lit atmosphere without the melting wax experience. Many thanks to Karen Gerth and Kim Wertz for assisting in that process, and a shout out to John and Judy Chessa for their smooth coordination of the Greens.

The Worship Design Commission oversees The First Presbyterian Church Concert Series which produced it's 14th annual season under the musical direction of Simona Frenkel. The Concert Series is organized by task force members Kathy Anderson (reception design), Gordon Braudaway (budgets), Judy Chessa, Christine Lazarus, and Ruth Deemer (reception support), Ted Crockett, Rob Dreher, Simona Frankel (musical director), Stephanie Hare, Christie Herman (chair), Carol Jensen (patron support), Mark Linehan (publicity), Barbara Santagata (graphic design), and Ann Timmons (ushers & front of house). Attracting many people from the larger community, the concerts would not be possible without the generous support of the Concert Series Patrons. Concerts were followed by themed receptions for the audience to meet the performers, which continues to be a popular aspect of our series. The Concert Series offered the following performances in 2014:

February 8, 2014	Candlelight, Cello, and Romance
April 26, 2014	Anonymous Alleluias and the Westchester Premier of The Armed Man
November 8, 2014	Gospel! Spirit on the Move
December 6, 2014	Messiah Plus

The Worship Design Commission is deeply grateful to the talents of those on the Commission and Concert Task Force as well as the spiritual leadership, support, and talents of Chip and Tami Low, and the office support of Kim Wertz. We are blessed in the musical leadership of Simona Frenkel, and the gifts brought to our worship by the Adult Choir, both Bell Choirs and the behind-the-scenes work of Carol and Erik Jensen. A big thank you to Connie Knapp for her preaching and worship leadership this year. We offer special thanks to the ongoing ministries of providing communion elements (Karen Gerth, Gordon Braudaway), Pat Prauda's many years of service in usher recruitment and care of the Paraments, Barbara Wilkens' banners, the Christmas Trees, wreaths and garlands supplied by the Wilkens and Pratt families, and Barbara Santagata's amazing graphic designs. The Worship Design Commission also recognizes with thanks all those who have ushered, set and served the Lord's Supper, created and provided signs and banners to communicate our message to the community, donated the materials and decorated our worship space, provided lay leadership, and those who have stepped in to assist in countless ways; -- all of which contribute to the powerful worship experiences with which we are so blessed. We are graced to have the energy, enthusiasm, and commitment of our vibrant faith community as we continue our journey together in the coming year.

*Respectfully submitted,
Christie Herman, Chair*

EDUCATION COMMISSION

Members: Dave Monk and Robin Corpolongo, co-chairs; Shawn Cribari, Heidi Haring, Aloha Hicks, Michele Mosca, Carol Jensen, Suzy Rishel, Theresa Kennedy, Lisa Eliasson, Rev. Tami Seidel

Overview

The Education Commission is responsible for the development, implementation, and administration of educational programs that address the needs of our church family from the youngest child to our seniors. The various committees strive to find new and innovative programs that will capture the interest of the congregation and help each person progress on their own journey of faith development.

While we continue to serve adults in the congregation, the major initiatives in 2014 were aimed at the youth of the congregation. For the pre-K through 8th grade we researched and settled on new curriculum. In September the curriculum was rolled out for Church School. For the younger grades there is still a rotation, but some of the centers have a different focus. The new curriculum comes with its own child-friendly Bible, which aids in teaching our youth. The other significant change with the curriculum is that 5th grade has been removed from the rotation and now meets with 6th grade. Seventh and 8th grade also meet together. The youth group that was reinvigorated in 2013 continues to be a focus as well. Margery Rossi was hired to coordinate the youth group programs. She has been a real blessing to this Church in the short time that she has been here. We also started a Senior High youth group, separating it out from the Middle School youth program. We are still working in making the Senior High program a success, but we have lots of energy focused in that direction.

Yorktown Presbyterian Pre-school Yorktown Presbyterian Preschool

Yorktown Presbyterian Preschool (YPP) offers morning and afternoon classes for three- and four-year-olds and a morning "Mommy and Me" program for two-year-olds. The school welcomes children with special needs as well as any required support personnel. The "Mommy and Me" program is offered in collaboration with the Westchester County Early Intervention Program. This program provides a socialization experience for two-year old children; the group consists of both typically developing children and children with special needs.

YPP is governed by a Board composed of four parent representatives and five members from our church. The Director, **Lisa Eliasson**, serves on the board ex officio. Church members currently on the board are **Jill Pagliettini (Chair)**, **Emily Monk (Treas.)**, **Debbie Hager** and **Julie Friscia**. The fifth slot for a church member is currently vacant.

Childcare Room

Consistent and dependable childcare during the Sunday services is an important consideration for parents of young children. Children from birth through kindergarten age are warmly welcomed here each Sunday by our crib room caregiver, **Elira Brucaj**. Over the past year, we have made efforts to offer child care at other church events and special services in an effort to help parents with young children feel free to participate. Our thanks and appreciation goes to **Michele Mosca**, our Crib Room Coordinator, for all her efforts to provide a safe, nurturing environment for the youngest of our church family. The major decision for the Crib room is the decision to hire a second caregiver. Session approved this hire in November and we are currently in process of hiring this position.

Church School

The Church School program continues to be a signature ministry of FPCY, offering a unique educational experience to children from pre-school through middle school. We have rotating superintendents working a two year term. The current Superintendents **Jen Dixon and Liza Placido** are responsible for the smooth running of the Sunday School program. We want to express our deep appreciation to **Jocelyn Fontana** who completed her commitment in 2014 and enriched our church school with her dedication and wisdom. The Church School committee has had the blessing of **Suzy Rishel** as its leader for the last few years. Unfortunately, Suzy stepped down from the position in December. Suzy, thank you for your fantastic service.

With our new curriculum the Church School is composed of four sections to best serve the educational needs of the various age groups. These are: Pre-school; K through 4th grade; 5th and 6th grade; and 7th and 8th grade.

All four groups use the Spark curriculum, but the curriculum is different for the different ages. Each Sunday, the pre-K through 4th grade children start off in the Gathering Time before being dismissed to their rotation activities. A special feature of this program is our gifted storytellers who bring a wonderful excitement to the start of each new church school lesson. On subsequent weeks, there is a brief “teach” of the story while the children learn exciting new songs and participate in a gathering that is designed to give children exposure to the usual practices of worship in a child centered context.

Alternative Giving Fair: Thank you to **Heidi Haring** for coordinating the Alternative Giving Fair once again. The Fair Trade Market sold almost \$2,000 worth of goods that benefit many small cooperatives and communities around the world. The Fair Trade Market is not a fund raiser for the church school. Instead, we support these vendors when the goods are purchased. The intention is to simply break even while providing our congregation with the chance to purchase interesting and unique gifts which made for fun holiday shopping!

Vacation Bible School

In 2012 Vacation Bible School (VBS) made a major change when we hosted. Because of the success of the 2012 program, the model was continued in 2013 and 2014. This year the program was held at St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church and once again all of the kids and leaders had a great time. We have maintained our ties with the Yorktown Cooperative Vacation Bible School (a group consisting of First Presbyterian Church, Yorktown United Methodist Church and St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church) and look forward to continued cooperation of the group.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation is a young person’s initiation into the life and ministry of our church. The students are being lead on this important journey by **Pam Darreff, David Monk, Gordon Braudaway** and **Ellen Miles** under the direction of **Rev. Chip Low**. Ten young people went through the class culminating in their Confirmation on May 4, 2014. Eight more began their confirmation journey in the fall of 2014 and two more have joined the journey this winter. They will complete their work in the spring.

The curriculum examines the seven parts of the Presbyterian Church (USA) seal. The class learned about the Presbyterian Church: its ministry, leadership and decision-making process. They also attend services of different Christian traditions, a Synagogue and a Mosque, as well as the MLK Community service at Antioch Baptist Church in Bedford Hills. The group participated in outreach ministries of our church, including going on a Midnight Run and serving at the Food Pantry, went on a retreat, enjoyed some group building activities and attended weekly worship.

Youth Ministries

Youth Ministry efforts focused mainly on the Middle School program this year, with a High School group that got off the ground in the fall. The Middle School group focused on the theme of Stewardship, with activities provided each month by members of the congregation on specific topics, such as “Stewardship of Creation.”

The Youth Planning Team met regularly to plan the “nuts and bolts” of each month’s activities and the Design Team (**Karen LaBonte, Alice Chin, Jack Shaughnessy, Dave Monk and Chip Low**) ensured that the activities fit into the “big picture” of a sustainable youth ministry program at FPC Yorktown.

Alice Chin served as a transitional coordinator for the youth ministry until November, when **Margery Rossi** was hired. The youth and adults of the FPCY youth ministry all offer great thanks for Alice’s time, enthusiasm, faith and willingness to serve.

The Design Team is guided in their work by the vision approved by session in 2013. Our understanding of this work requires being in ongoing dialogue with this document, with our youth and with one another. As we move from the initial phase of implementation of our programs, we are currently addressing these questions:

1. Leadership - we continue to need more people to develop monthly meetings
2. What other ways can members of the congregation get involved?
3. What’s next with HS youth?
4. The original Design team members are facing a variety of demands on their time and attention. Who will fill be the “big picture thinkers” for our youth ministry in 2015?

Mission Trips: One of the values our youth ministry embodies is “service.” We are currently planning mission trips for the summer of 2015 appropriate for both Middle and High School students that will provide our youth the opportunity to serve God and others with joy and trust, as an expression of their own faith. These trips will inform the work that we do in monthly meetings throughout the winter and spring to prepare our youth for their service, both spiritually and to build skills.

We welcome your input into our ongoing efforts to create a dynamic and engaging youth ministry, and look forward to another great year of growth at FPCY!

A reminder: Our mission statement and values, from the Vision for Youth Ministry document.

Mission:

The youth ministry of FPCY invites our youth and their friends into a welcoming and vibrant community that

- **Surrounds** youth with an unconditional love that **fosters** genuine relationships;
- **Engages** youth in the joys and traditions of the Christian faith;
- **Energizes** youth to extend the love of Christ to the world;

What We Value

1. **Grace**, God’s greatest gift to us, is the foundation of all we do and strive to be.
2. **Growth**. Our covenant with youth begins at baptism and grows throughout their lives; we support and encourage our youth as they grow their faith in God, their relationships with the church, and with each other.
3. **Trust**. We provide our youth with a nurturing and safe environment enabling them the opportunity for honest expression and inviting their questions and opinions in a non-judgmental way.
4. **Joy**. We live a faith that shows our love of life, our delight in God as our strength and our desire that others know this faith with us.
5. **Service**. We seek to discover and express our faith through service to our community. By helping others we learn more about ourselves and our relationship with God and those around us.
6. **Community** We embrace our youth as vital members of a dynamic body, integrating them in the life and work of the Church as we also seek to know them as individuals.

Adult Education

“...when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.” (1 Corinthians 13: 11b)

Adult Education studies at FPC Yorktown are as much about our faith formation – both for us as individuals and as a community – as they are about education. Our studies engage both head and heart, providing a safe place for participants to share their questions, doubts and struggles and to support one another as we seek to live the Gospel.

We offer studies during the Church School hour on Sundays, and on Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings. A monthly “Sermon for Lunch” is an opportunity to gather after the 10:45 worship service on Sunday to discuss the day’s sermon, or any other faith issues that participants bring to the conversation. Our Women’s Circle bible study group meets monthly on Wednesday mornings. Adult Ed is coordinated by the Adult Education committee, which is chaired by **Shawn Cribari**. Adult Ed is one of the areas that Tami has devoted her time and has therefore benefited greatly from her increased presence. This past fall Tami started two groups performing an intensive Bible study. This is not for the faint of heart, with mandatory attendance, homework and daily readings. While it sounds daunting, the groups are loving it and looking forward to getting back to after a break for the Holiday.

Church Library

The Church Library is a valuable resource that is open to all members of our church family. Feel free to browse and if you would like to take out a book, simply fill out a card and drop it in the box provided. **Carol Jensen** continues her service as our Church Librarian. In addition to books on Bible study, theology, and the Presbyterian Church, the library has many titles on examining and nourishing personal faith as well as all the recent Adult Education studies. The complete catalogue is available on church’s website along with reviews of recent acquisitions. Additionally, each month a brief review of new items appear in the “Disciple.”

*Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Monk and Robin Corpolongo*

MISSION COMMISSION

The Mission Commission plans, coordinates and sponsors mission opportunities throughout the year. Stephanie Hare, Jean Post-Winget, Marisa Swift and Heidi Haring (Deacon) served as members of this commission this past year, and Ruling Elders Connie Knapp and Nance Thompson served as co-chairs. Many members of the congregation participated in the activities of this commission; without their support First Presbyterian Church would not be able to accomplish as much as we do. We are grateful for the prayers and support of the congregation.

This past year the Mission Commission worked with the Deacons on issues of food justice, with Adult Education for Peace and Justice Sunday, and with the Deacons and Education Commission on Giving Sunday to coordinate all of the giving opportunities during the Christmas Season.

- Designating the Easter offering to support the disposable diaper ministry of the food pantry
- Co-sponsoring the Hudson River Presbytery's conference, Just Eating: Food Justice & Our Community
- Inviting Rev. Margery Rossi for Peace and Justice Sunday, to speak about discipleship and her trip to Israel
- Mission activities this past year included:
- Our Operation Homefront project the first Saturday in May, repairing the home of a military veteran. This project was supported by Congregational Life, who provided meals for the volunteers.
- Serving meals every month at Jan Peek House, a 19 bed safe haven for homeless men and women operated by CHOP, Caring for the Homeless Of Peekskill, Inc.
- Cooking and serving the Noon Time Meal monthly, in partnership with The Salvation Army and Peekskill Presbyterian Church, whose commercial kitchen is used for cooking.
- Working with the Deacons and the Education Commission to designate a "Giving Sunday" that provided "Toys for Teens" to serve our food pantry clients, hats and mittens for the "hat & mitten" tree, food pantry donation cards, gifts for Bedford Prison Project, funds for the Living Waters project and the Presbyterian Joy Offering
- Supporting the Education Commission's Alternate Giving Fair in Thanksgiving to provide opportunities to support artisans and projects in the spirit of giving
- Conducting the Midnight Run in September and coordinating the Midnight Run for the Confirmation Class
- Taking a "mission trip" close to home to Point Pleasant, New Jersey to provide assistance after Hurricane Sandy
- Designating the Pentecost Offering to support scholarships for youth to attend summer camps at Holmes Camp and Conference Center
- Supporting the One Great Hour of Sharing offering
- Sponsoring the Amnesty International letter writing campaign

The "Knit Togethers" co-chaired by Noreen Radke and Lois Ostling are also part of the Mission Commission. This past year the group knit 209 items that were given to, the Deacon's Mitten Tree for their Food Pantry, Dominican Sister's Family Nursing Services for the support of the Maternal Child Health Program (items are given to new moms and their babies), and the Field Home.

*Respectfully submitted,
Connie Knapp and Nance Thompson*

REPORT OF THE DEACONS

Contact to the Homebound

Our ministry this year was expanded to include e-mail contact for those members who didn't feel up to visits or even phone calls. We made 10 regular e-visits to keep tabs on those who weren't up for visiting and to maintain regular contact. Our team has had 6 members and Tami, with Chip helping when he can. We made 115 visits, 36 calls and we served Communion with Chip or Tami 14 times. *Heidi Haring and Christine Lazarus*

Transportation

Rides were arranged in the church to transport about 22 persons to and from medical appointments, church services or church functions during the year. Also this year five persons from the Guiding Eyes for the Blind were picked up and they sat with us at two church services. We thank those that helped us help others who have temporary transportation needs. *Chuck Radke*

Loaves and Fishes

This ministry was shared among four Deacons, Jane Amato, John Chessa, Wanda Diaz and Carol Gaetani. Nine meals were prepared with the help of volunteers from the congregation and delivered to church members during medical emergencies or the loss of a loved one. Thank you to those who helped our church family in times of need.

Card Ministry

Wanda Diaz mailed out 113 cards this year. Cards were sent for the birth of a baby, weddings, significant birthdays and anniversaries, sympathy and in times of illness. Thank you cards were also sent to those who contributed to the Food Pantry.

Hat and Mitten Tree

Karen Mack oversaw this ministry. We had lots of hats, gloves and scarves to give to the clients of the Food Pantry this year and they were much appreciated. The Knit-Togethers contributed 125 items, which, combined with 90 more from members of the congregation, deacons and friends, brought the total number of gifts to 210.

Bereavement

Heidi Haring and Christine Lazarus, assisted by members of the congregation, helped with four receptions this year, held after the memorial services of Craig Hibben, Larry Koenig, Cal Weber and Mrs. Hoanzl, a resident of Yorktown who was not a member of our church.

Food Pantry

2014 was the largest year ever for the Food Pantry. We handed out 5,228 bags of food - 14% higher than any prior year. Average families served at the Pantry was 150, with a peak of 190. On average, each pantry provides 592 individuals with food. The summer saw less of a dip in clients than in prior years. We tried to maximize high nutrition, low sodium, healthy foods.

There is some belief that the increase in client population this year is driven by cuts in State SNAP assistance (food stamps). To make matters worse we received less in government backed grant funding than in the past, due to additional State and Federal cuts. Fortunately, we received more in private and corporate grants than normal, and while that didn't completely offset the costs, the budget overage is seen as manageable.

The initial pantry budget was roughly \$24,000. This amount is made up of the generous donations of the congregation and the matching funds from the Pantry bequest. The actual amount spent in 2014 was roughly \$32,000, however, that amount includes some invoices from 2013 and the adjustment in accounting basis during 2014 moved roughly \$2000 out of the 2014 actuals. Additionally, one time grants of roughly \$4,000 further reduced the overage. Finally, prior years' having been under budget has resulted in funds being set aside, which was used to close the final gap. Discussions with the Deacons and Finance will likely result in an adjustment to budget for 2015 to reflect the likely actual 2015 expenses at current client levels.

Planning is underway to try to reduce the per-family cost, but things continue to function normally, with the typical decrease in client volume in January (particularly in recent weather) helping to reduce short term costs. We are maximizing use of free frozen fruit with the new secondary freezer and buying more mixed food by the pound for less. *Todd Child*

Toys for Tots

The Deacons distributed toys from the Toys for Tots program this year, along with gifts donated for teens by the congregation. These were distributed on December 13 this year, in between the two December food pantries.

Around 1700 gifts were distributed to 136 families for 430 children. The children included 314 young children (0-10) and 116 older children (11-18). Each child received four gifts (one large gift, one game or art kit, one stuffed animal, and one stocking stuffer). A small number of gifts remained at the end of the day and these were given to the Toys for Tots program to distribute at the St. Mary's church distribution the following weekend. Many thanks to all who helped these children have gifts for Christmas. *Kathy Winsted*

School Supplies

The Deacons spent \$1,274 on school supplies, \$1,000 from the Deacon's fund and \$274 from donations. School supplies were distributed on August 23 and September 13 for any kids who did not receive kits in August.

We purchased 150 school supplies kits from Staples' Kits 4 Kids program (70 K-2 and 80 grades 5-8). In addition, the congregation donated supplies or money for us to assemble 60 middle and high school kits. We had 17 kits remaining from last year, so we gave out a total of 227 kits to school age children. 212 of these were distributed at the food pantry and 15 were delivered to Comite Latino in Peekskill by Jose. *Kathy Winsted and Heidi Haring*.

Diapers

The Deacons distributed diapers once a month at the first food pantry of each month throughout 2014. Half a sleeve of diapers (1/4 of a case – usually between 30 and 50 diapers) was given out for each young child registered to anyone who showed up at pantry.

We purchased 105 cases of diapers for \$2911. This allowed us to distribute 420 packages of diapers. We also got some free diapers from food pantry and had some donated diapers, allowing us to distribute approximately 450 total packages of diapers in 2014. *Kathy Winsted*

Thank you and Farewell

A heartfelt thank you to our outgoing Deacons, Jane Amato, Heidi Haring, Karen Mack and Kathy Winsted for the care, dedication and enthusiasm they demonstrated in their various ministries, and best wishes to our Youth Deacons, Kim Friscia and Emily Monk. We extend a warm welcome to the new class of Deacons, Bud Coccodrilli, Debbie Hager, Marianna Sherman and John Winget, as well as to Emma Capichioni, our Youth Deacon.

The Board of Deacons would also like to thank the congregation for your continued support, prayers and generosity, which enables us to carry out our ministries to those in need.

*Respectfully submitted,
Christine Lazarus, Moderator*

STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

Members: Jessica Mayes and Tim Lupfer, Co-Chairs. Gloria Coccodrilli, Mariana Sherman, Pam Darreff, Cathy Talbot, and Chip Low.

Purpose: Christian Stewardship is the practice of systematic and proportional giving of time, talent, and treasure, based on the conviction that these are a trust from God, to be used in service for the benefit of all people, in grateful acknowledgement of Christ's redeeming love, as we care for and manage the abundance that God has given us.

Stewardship Campaign: The giving to our church during 2014 continued our church's remarkable trend. 50 "giving units" (meaning a family or an individual giving as one entity) actually gave more to the church in 2014 than their initial pledge at the beginning of the year. At the time of the writing of this report, we are still awaiting some giving to meet pledges for 2014, so we should come reasonably close to \$451,734, the amount pledged for 2014. Our theme for the 2015 pledge campaign was "Pledging in 3D," meaning Discipleship, Discovery, and Donation. We ran this campaign a few weeks later in the fall than in previous years, because we did not want to interfere with the congregational vote on the co-pastor model. As part of the pledging kick-off, Jessica developed images for use during the service that required 3D glasses. For 2015, 60 giving units (35% of the total) have pledged more than last year, increasing their pledges by an average of 13%, for which we are very grateful. At the time of this report, we are still awaiting the pledges of approximately 37 giving units to complete the pledging for 2015.

Planned Giving: In 2014 we had a service in June that highlighted Planned Giving, with Charles Barton as the guest pastor. That event, plus numerous reports in the bulletin and *The Disciple*, has raised awareness within the congregation for Planned Giving. We have now established an Endowment Fund, which has already received planned gift donations during 2014.

Staying Connected: Led by Pam Darreff, we continued to stay in touch with our college age youth. This year we sent them "care packages" during finals week, both in the spring and fall. The fall "packages" were sent digitally, including a coupon for Starbucks. The responses from the students and parents have been very rewarding.

Visit the Visitor: Led by Mariana, this program continues to be a viable way to get to know our first time visitors, who receive home made banana nut bread and a copy of the latest *Disciple*. For 2015, we will review the paper/adhesive badge for visitor in our pews for possible updating.

Membership and New Members: As part of our annual duties, the Stewardship Commission reviewed the membership rolls of FPCY, and we recommended to the Session (which approved) dropping three members from our rolls due to moving away or joining new churches. Three of our members passed away in 2014. We also welcomed 20 new members (including the Confirmation Class) in 2014, with a celebratory dinner/brunch following the church services when the new members were introduced to our church.

Many thanks to all who have helped this Commission throughout the year!

*Respectfully submitted,
Tim Lupfer*

OPERATIONS COMMISSION

Members:

Dick Seymour, Chair & Facilities Coordinator; Ian Spence; Jack Shaughnessy; Barbara Darragh; Fran Proceller; Ed de Jong; Walter Oudheusden; Deanna Collins; Tom Travis; Bill Friscia; Tricia Dineen; Peter Marsh; Bud Coccodrilli & Pastor Chip Low. The Finance Committee, part of the Operations Commission, is chaired by Gordon Braudaway, Clerk of Session, and has the following members: Jack Shaughnessy, Barbara Darragh, Frank Hodgkinson, Tom Travis, Tricia Dineen and Fred Mintzer. The work of the Finance Committee is reported separately.

Overview:

The Mission of the Operations Commission is to maintain the Church Facilities and make improvements to enable the mission work of the Church. The work of the commission is reported regularly in the Disciple newsletter.

Major projects in 2014 were:

- Retiling floors in Gathering Space, Cross Hallway and Coat Room; repairing broken tiles in Fellowship Hall.
- Leveling & compacting North Parking lots.
- Repair & painting of Treasurer's Office.
- Engagement of J.P. McHale firm for pest control.
- Addition of LED lighting in the Narthex closets.
- Rehab of the Board/Music Room including new closet doors & improvement of the Chapel wall.
- Retiling of the preschool hallway & painting of the walls with fresh, bold colors to make the entire entrance area more "kid friendly".
- Stripping and rewaxing the floor in Fellowship Hall.
- Coating the oak floor in room #1 with three coats of polyurethane.
- Sanding, priming and painting pews & rail in East balcony, including rebuilding the window safety railings.
- Planting two Kousa Dogwood trees in memory of Craig Hibben.
- Installing new Bilco doors at entrances of our two basements.
- Completing an energy study in conjunction with NYSEG to reduce lighting energy consumption. We contracted with EnerPath to replace all lighting fixtures with new LED technology. NYSEG will pay approximately 67% of the total cost. The replacement work took place in January, 2015.
- Moved the Treasurer's office equipment to the second cubicle in the main office and revamped room 19 as a co-pastor's office. Room 19 was completely refinished, with chair rails being removed, walls spackled, primed and painted. New furniture where needed for the co-pastor offices was selected and ordered. New carpeting was installed in both offices.
- Two major work efforts were conducted to maintain and improve our facilities and campus during our spring and fall Work Parties. The hill at the corners of Rt.'s 132 & 202 was improved with a stone pathway for water run-off from the parking lot and the planting of pachysandra to replace the weeds and wild vines.

In addition, considerable routine maintenance was conducted throughout the facilities during the year. Our Sanctuary is 175 years old. The "new" part of our building (i.e. Fellowship Hall, connection to the Sanctuary, kitchen, etc.) will be seventeen years old in April, 2015. Other areas of our facilities such as Room 1 date back to 1950 with the preschool area dating back to 1955. The current office area along with the Rooms 14-17 date back to 1961. The age of various parts of our facilities is indicative of the level of maintenance required to keep everything in top-notch shape. Generally speaking, we find that the older the facility, the more maintenance that is required.

I offer a very big thank you to all of those members who helped with our work during the year! Several of our outdoor benches have been rehabbed by David Lee so he deserves a special thank you which I offer for this solo effort. Also, the work to rebuild the closet doors in the Board/Music room was done single handedly by Skip Mahncke. I offer a big thank you to Skip for this significant solo effort. Deanna Collins deserves a very special thank you for her continuing efforts in organizing major work parties and recruiting participants. Thank you very much, Deanna. While there were many other individual efforts for which we are very thankful, I would like to single out the contributions of Bud Coccodrilli who was always willing to answer my call for assistance on many projects throughout the year. Lastly, I want to offer Jose a very big thank you for his efforts throughout the year in performing his work with a professional and caring attitude!

Dick Seymour, Chair of Operations & Facilities Coordinator

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF YORKTOWN

2880 Crompond Road

Yorktown Heights, New York 10598

Phone: 914-245-2186

Worship Services: Sundays at 8:30 and 10:45am

Church School and Adult Education: Sundays at 9:30am

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm

Yorktown Presbyterian Preschool: 914-962-8712

www.FPCYorktown.org

Chip Low and Tami Seidel, Co-Pastors

Simona Frenkel, Organist & Choir Director

Margery Rossi, Youth Coordinator

Kim Wertz, Administrative Assistant

Jose Sandoval, Custodian

Jen Dixon & Liza Placido, Church School Superintendents

Tom Travis, Frank Hodgkinson, Beth Gruber, Treasurers

THE SESSION

Class of 2015

Tim Chin

Robin Corpoltongo

Marsha Henderson

Bruce Johnson

Connie Knapp

Tim Lupfer

Josie Buckhout, *Youth Elder*

Julia Wanamaker, *Youth Elder*

Class of 2016

Donna Gresh

Beth Gruber

Jessica Mayes

Eugene McGrath

Ian Spence

Debbie Bernardini

Class of 2017

Kirk Larsen

David Ramage

Suzy Rishel

Linda Swift

Kathy Winsted

Clerk of Session: Gordon Braudaway

Moderators: Chip Low, Tami Seidel

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2015

John Chessa

Todd Child

Wanda Diaz

Christine Lazarus

Emma Capichioni, *Youth Deacon*

Class of 2016

Carl Anderson

Cynthia Fritz

Carol Thorne-Gaetani

Chuck Radke

Class of 2017

Bud Coccodrilli

Debbie Hager

Marianna Sherman

John Winget

Moderator: Christine Lazarus

Vice-Moderator: Chuck Radke

Secretary: Cynthia Fritz

Financial Secretary: John Chessa