



Connecting with God, One Another and the World
First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown

December 2015

DATES TO NOTE:

Saturday, Dec 5
Christmas Concert
7:30pm

Sunday, Dec 13
Congregational Meeting
12:00pm

Monday, Dec 21
Longest Night Service
7:30pm

Christmas Eve, Dec 24
Family Service
(Christmas Pageant)
4:00pm
Candlelight Services
7:30pm & 11:00pm

Candlelight services feature
1/2 hour prelude music
prior to each service.

Sunday, Dec 27
Lessons & Carols
One Service — 9:30am

The Disciple



The theme for this year's Advent came to me back in March, and it was one word. "Awaken." What does it mean to awaken? The dictionary defines "awaken" as to "rouse from sleep; cause to stop sleeping." I love sleep, and I love waking up feeling rested. However, I can certainly name many times when I was reluctantly roused from sleep by crying babies, stormy weather, phone calls in the middle of the night. I didn't want to wake up! Whether welcomed or not, awakening has an element of being awakened to a new day or to a new reality around us.

Awakening is also a central theme of the Advent season. "Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (Matthew 24:42). "It is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers" (Romans 11:11). These passages and others invite us to consider how we have fallen asleep in our faith and so are not prepared to meet the Lord when he shows up in our lives.

How have our routines of life and faith, our expectations of God and others, put us to sleep? Where have we fallen asleep in our lives, in our ministry, in our beliefs about God so that we no longer see what God is doing in the world? How do we need to be roused from sleep, woken up, so that we are aware of the presence of God in new ways? Advent is a time to wake up!

And then, the unexpected happened. The next Star Wars movie was announced. **Star Wars: The Force Awakens**. I'm a long-time

fan of the series, so my excitement for the theme only grew stronger when I heard the title and watched the trailers. What comes next after defeating the Evil Empire? The Force awakens, of course! Could there be anything truer of our faith as well? The evil forces of sin and death are destroyed in the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Advent and Christmas awaken us, rouse us from sleep, to a new day, a new world, a new life around us. We tell the story of a baby born long ago to awaken to our longing for a savior. We remember the life, death and resurrection of Jesus to awaken hope for new life in and through us. Awaken reminds us that we don't just look to the past as if that is the story of our faith. We ask, when will Jesus come again? When will Jesus finally finish the work he started at the resurrection, the work God has been doing since the beginning of time – the creation of a world in which love and peace and justice reign forever?

So this Advent, let's wake up together! How have we fallen asleep to God's presence in our lives? How do we need to be roused from sleep to be renewed in our faith, to be opened up to something more in life and faith, to discover new possibilities for grace, generosity, peace, forgiveness, action? Asking these questions is like an alarm clock going off that rouses us from sleep. Awakening to the answers is the life we seek this season as we wait and pray for the coming of our Savior and Lord. Wake up! Keep awake! God is coming!

Chip

A SEASON OF FAITH.
A GIFT OF PROMISE.



CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

NOV 29 - DEC 20

The Moravian Star
Why Blue For Advent?
Christmas Joy Offering

See more on page 6-7

Operations Commission



With winter fast approaching we are happy to say that all of the planned outdoor work has been accomplished with the exception of the December 5th scheduled grass trimmings and repair of rock wall on Route 132. The east side of the Church has been painted, floor waxing is complete, all leaky sinks have been fixed, the furnace has been serviced and the fence in the parking lot has been repaired. All of the hard work in the fall will better prepare us for the spring clean-up.

Upcoming Event:

The Hudson River Presbytery meeting at FPCY will take place on Tuesday, December 8th. Two individuals are still needed for traffic control in the parking lot.

- Kirk Larsen, Operations Co-Chairman

Our GreenFaith Waste Audit



Did you know that a waste audit was completed as one part of the process of learning more about our stewardship of our resources within this church and its buildings? We owe many thanks to our middle school youth and their adult leaders who, on October 11th, donned rubber gloves and brave spirits (and strong stomachs!) to take on this dirty task of sorting through the contents of four large bags of trash collected from several different locations in the Christian Education building.

After dumping all of the trash contents onto tarps, our auditors began a process of sorting through and then classifying each piece of trash according to the type of trash (some of these categories were mixed paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, glass bottles & jars, aluminum cans, newspaper, and organic material). Next, they began estimating the amount of trash found in each category and finally, they began the process of making decisions about whether the contents of each of these trash categories should be considered true garbage correctly destined for the dumpster, or whether it should be reduced, recycled, re-purposed/reused, or composted.

As you might have already guessed, our auditors found that we need to improve our trash reduction, recycling, re-purposing, and composting practices. As an example, they found recyclable cans, bottles, cardboard, and art paper in the trash. They also found that a significant amount of the trash was contaminated paper plates (therefore no longer recyclable) and plastic cups, as well as significant amounts of plastic flatware. The GreenFaith team will be looking at ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle, and remember that reduce is usually the best option! More about this later!

-Jean Post-Winget, for the GreenFaith Team



Waste Reduction: Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for 3 hours. Save energy and resources by recycling your glass, aluminum, plastic and paper. Check your city's recycling guide to find out what materials are recyclable in your area, and whether or not your recyclables should be separated or co-mingled.

Eco-tip provided by GreenFaith:
www.greenfaith.org



The Mission Commission asks, "How can we help the Syrian refugees?"

Many of you have stopped members of the Mission Commission and asked that very question. We've been touched by the plight of these people. Grayde Parsons, Stated Clerk, PC(USA), has asked us to "Choose welcome, not fear"

<http://www.pcusa.org/news/2015/11/17/choose-welcome-not-fear/>

From his letter:

Our nation, for decades, has chosen hope and welcome for those fleeing war and persecution. Since 1975, more than three million refugees have found safety and security within our nation's borders. Right now 11 million Syrians cannot go to school, tend to their land, or raise their children in the place they know as home. They cannot do these things because they, themselves, have been terrorized for far too long by numerous factions, including their own government.

In that spirit, the Mission Commission is looking for a few folks who would be willing to look into the ways in which we might support Syrian refugees. Interested? Let Connie Knapp (connie.knapp@icloud.com) know.

Tis the Season, the "eating and giving" season, that is

The Mission Commission has been busy feeding folks. Pat Prauda has been coordinating our meals at **Jan Peek House**. A big "thank you" to those members of the congregation who have committed to feed folks – we have families signed up through February. Interested in helping out? Let Pat Prauda know.

The **Noon Time Meal** is prepared on the second Tuesday of the month in the kitchen at Peekskill Presbyterian Church. A "crew" buys the food and cooks the meal, which is served at the Salvation Army the following day. Those dates are: December 8, 2015, and then in 2016: January 12, February 9, March 8, April 12, May 10 and June 7. We also need folks to provide desserts – the youth group made brownies for December, but after that we have no desserts. Interested in helping out? Let Andy Mavian know.

December 6 is "Giving Sunday." The Mission Commission, the Deacons and the Education Commission encourage you to review the many opportunities and find the one (or more!) to which you feel called to respond. Help make the holiday season a happy one for everyone.

Finally, we are starting to plan domestic mission trips for the summer and an international mission trip for 2017. The Mission Commission will be supporting our youth by sending a delegation to PC(USA) Triennium at Purdue University this summer. <http://presbyterianyouthtriennium.org/> From the website:

Presbyterian Youth Triennium is a gathering for high school age youth from the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church that occurs every three years. The 2016 event is July 19-23, 2016 at Purdue University. The theme for the 2016 event is "GO".

We are also planning a mission trip for middle school youth, and an intergenerational trip. Want to be part of the planning? Let Stephanie Hare or Connie Knapp know!



Stewardship Commission

As the year comes to a close, it is a good time to reflect on how the members of this church have shared their time, talents, and treasures to help the mission of our church. We see the benefits of this generosity every day, from the great facilities that we share with so many other groups to the immediate help provided by the food pantry. To help us all continue this great work, we would ask that all of our members look at two commitments at this time: our giving for 2015 and our pledges for 2016. We can check our giving for 2015 online or by calling the church office.

For those who have already submitted their pledge for 2016, we thank you. For those who are still considering their pledge for 2016, pledge cards (located in each pew) can be submitted on Sunday or throughout the week. You can also visit <http://fpcyorktown.org/pledging/>

Most importantly, we thank everyone for the wonderful contributions you have made and continue to make for the work of our church.

Yours in the faith,
The Stewardship Commission

Deacons' Corner

How Can I Keep From Singing (Traditional American Folk Song)

My life flows on in endless song, Above earth's lamentation. I hear the real though far off hymn That hails a new creation. (Refrain)	Through all the tumult and the strife I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul How can I keep from singing? (Refrain)	The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing; All things are mine since I am His. How can I keep from singing? (Refrain)
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Refrain: **No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since Love is Lord of Heaven and earth, How can I keep from singing?**

Advent. ..It's here. It's official. A season so "full" of so much anticipation, excitement, emotion and..... yes, even sadness loneliness and turmoil. The long awaited birth of Christ into our hearts and lives is about to happen while in our midst is all this "tumult and strife." I don't need to go into the evening news.

The question we can ask is how we might handle all that we individually and collectively as humanity are faced with during these turbulent times and so much uncertainty. Yet what can we do when we are in a season of so much expectation and hope - which accompanies the birth of Jesus as God's ultimate gift and sign of God's steadfast love - and we find ourselves less than hopeful, or scared or downright frightened?

We can cling to that Rock - the Rock of our salvation, "the steadfast Rock whose love never ceases, the Rock whose mercies never come to an end", the Rock whose "House we shall live in forever and ever" and to Jesus "our Brother, kind and good, humbly born in a stable crude."

These are the things - the eternal and everlasting things - that we can focus our minds and hearts on. God's love for all of us - each and every one of us. We can remember Jesus' command that we love one another as He has loved us.

Yet I have very wonderful news for you! Wanda Diaz, who has been the Deacons' Correspondence Secretary for the last three years cannot possibly send as many "thank you

cards" as would be needed to thank all of you for your contributions of food, turkey, gifts cards, and manpower that was received for the Food Pantry during this Holiday Season.

So, I'm doing it here! The monetary gifts, the dozens and dozens of turkeys, the gift cards are "a fountain ever springing." **Thank you, thank all of you for your love, caring and generous support! It is truly a sign that hope, love and the joy of giving are alive and well in the midst of everything else that is happening around the world. God Bless you all!!**

Your continual loving response to the needs of our brothers and sisters brings exactly "The peace of Christ which makes fresh our hearts as fountains ever springing" and exactly what keeps hope and the possibility of our long awaited "Peace on Earth" a true eventuality.

The Deacons are currently looking for:

- people interested in helping with transportation to and from church for people who are not able to drive
- people to make meals for the "Loaves and Fishes" Ministry for people who have just returned from the hospital or are convalescing and not able to make meals for themselves.

Food Pantry Item-of-the-Month

Hearty Soup

Next Dates:
December 5, 19
9 to 11am



Hat & Mitten Tree

The Deacons are sponsoring the "Hat and Mitten Tree" again this year and will have a tree in the gathering space during advent.

People can make or purchase hats, mittens and scarves and hang them on the tree as decorations.

These gifts will be distributed to the children and adults who come to our Food Pantry in December.

This December we have our Toys for Tots and the "Hat and Mitten Tree" which allow for continued opportunities to share and experience God's love. Please join us for our "Giving Sunday" on December 6th. Remember, there is no need to wrap the gifts.

Our Deacons wish you all a special and blessed Christmas this Advent season. God's Peace and Love to all!

-Carol Thorne-Gaetani for the Deacons.



Diaper Ministry Update

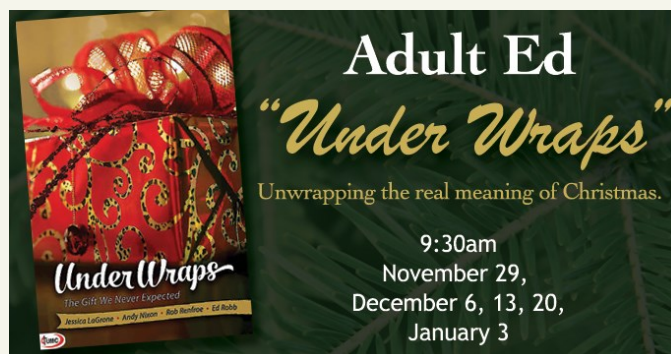
Many thanks to FPCY members for their generous in kind and cash donations. Through your generosity, we have been able to provide a 5-day supply of diapers for virtually every client requesting one --- at our "once-a-month" diaper distribution.

Under Wraps: The Gift We Never Expected

The Adult Education Planning Team invites you to join us for a four week Advent study on Sunday mornings. We will be using the book, Under Wraps:

<https://www.cokesbury.com/curriculum/7665/under-wraps/>

This Advent experience explores the character of God described in the Old Testament and then revealed through Jesus Christ—God under wraps. Each week centers on a key word that describes a characteristic of God that is evidenced in the Old Testament and then seen more clearly through Jesus: faithful, dangerous, expectant and jealous.



Join us for this provocative study on Sunday November 29, December 6, 13, 20 and January 3.

Knitting Groups

Prayer Shawl Group will meet next on December 2nd at 9:30 am and again on the 16th at 10:30am. Anyone who would like to join us in knitting is most welcome. In addition to the regular knitters who come on Wednesdays, we have at least seven off-site knitters. Contacts: Marianna Sherman (914-737-8294) or Fran Schiel (914-245-5396).

The Knit Togethers will meet next on December 14, 2015 and January 11 & 25, 2016. **FAITH IN ACTION:** The Knit Togethers' Amazing Show and Tell will be presented on Sunday, December 6, 2015 from 9:30am-12:30pm. The show will display our year's work for our giving to others in need. View all the beautiful hand knitted items; it's fun and free! See you there. All who knit or crochet are welcome to join us. Our meetings are usually held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 10:00am to 11:30am in the Lounge/Rm 15. Contacts: Noreen Radke (962-4370) or Lois Ostling (962-2809.)

Congratulations to one of our long-term knitters, Kay Lieberman, on her 100th Birthday. Happy Birthday, Kay!



Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch enjoyed a lovely Thanksgiving Luncheon in November celebrating Kay Lieberman's 100th Birthday, compliments of Kay's Family. 51 attended.

Our Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Cortland Colonial Manor on Wednesday, December 16th at Noon. The cost is \$24 per person and reservation and monies are due by Friday December 11th. Checks made out to Pat Prauda can be mailed to Pat at 25-H Springvale Rd, Croton-on-Hudson 10520 or left in the office will Lisa. This year we are asked to bring a gift for the clients of Jan Peek House, Wrap your gift and mark it man or woman and size {s, m or l} if applicable.

Jan Peek Meal

Thank you to Wax, Coccodrilli and Bussell Families for providing and serving the clients of Jan Peek House with their Thanksgiving Meal. A special thanks in advance to the Mavian family along with Stephanie Hare and her nephew for volunteering to plan and serve the meal for them on the day after Christmas!

The 2016 calendar is on the bulletin board and March is open and then May thru December so feel free to pick a month and sign up to plan, prepare and serve a meal at the Jan Peek House in Peekskill. Thank you Pat Prauda



*O star of wonder, star of night,
star of royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect Light.*

Have you seen the gorgeous star hanging on the portico of the Sanctuary?

This is a 26-point Moravian star. As a young girl, whenever my family drove from Lancaster to Annville, PA for the Seidel Family Christmas party, my brother and I liked to play a game – to see how many Moravian stars we could spot along the way. We always hit the jackpot in the town of Lititz, which was founded by Moravians in 1742. There were Moravian stars hanging on almost every porch and in every doorway. The local bank hosted a gigantic 6-foot star with over 110 points. In the midst of all the flashy holiday decorations, I loved these stars for their simple beauty and aura of peacefulness. But I always wondered where they came from...

Did you know that the Moravian church is the earliest organized Protestant denomination in the world whose roots predate Martin Luther's kick-off of the Protestant Reformation by a good 100 years? The Moravians were followers of Jan Hus, a Roman Catholic priest who tried to reform the Roman Church but was burned at the stake for heresy in 1415. His followers organized themselves into the "Unity of Brethren" in 1457, but they called themselves Moravians since many of their founders were from the provinces of Moravia and Bohemia in what is now the Czech Republic. The Moravians were persecuted for centuries until they were offered refuge by Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf on his estate in Saxony, Germany in 1722. From there, they sent out missionaries all over the world, including America where Moravian communities flourished in PA and NC.

The first Moravian star was constructed by a student at a Moravian boarding school in Niesky, Germany in 1820 and used as a Christmas decoration. Because of their distinctive shape, the stars were used in teaching geometry lessons. The most common Moravian star has 26 points (like ours) and is made from 18 square-based pyramids and 8 triangular pyramids. This shape is technically known as an augmented rhombicuboctahedron, which is a mouthful! The stars were quickly adopted by Moravian communities around the world as Advent decorations and became a source of commercial enterprise for many of them.

Moravian stars are lit and hung at the beginning of Advent as a prophetic symbol of the Light coming into the world. Like the Star of Bethlehem, it leads us to the manger. On Christmas Eve, the star takes on even greater meaning as God's promises are fulfilled in the birth of Christ, the Word made flesh, the Bright Morning Star as Jesus calls himself in Revelation 22:16. The star remains lit throughout the Christmas season and Epiphany, the darkest time of the year, to remind us all that the Light shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it. According to the Moravian Church in North America website, "It is a star of promise, a star of fulfillment, a star of hope."

As you pass by our Moravian star, may it guide you to trust in God's promises,
to rejoice in the wondrous news of Christ's birth,
and to live in hope that God's Light will shine in your heart this season
and radiate throughout all the world.

Jami



Longest Night Service

Join us on Monday evening, December 21st at 7:30 p.m. for the Longest Night Service in preparation for the Light coming into the world on Christmas morning. Sometimes known as "Blue Christmas" and traditionally held on the longest night of the year, this beautiful candle-lit worship service offers hope, support, prayer and quiet reflection to those for whom the Advent season may also bring sadness, grief, and worry. Please join us for this peaceful and comforting worship which provides solace and hope for the Light which is coming.

Why Blue for Advent?

As we move through the church year, there are many symbols which the church uses to remind us of the significance of seasons and days. The liturgical colors orient us to the season of the church year and engage the sense of sight in worship. Red symbolizes the work of the Holy Spirit. White and gold symbolize the days and seasons of joy, and mark pivotal events in the life of Christ (e.g., Christmas, Easter). Green symbolizes growth and marks Ordinary Time, the seasons after Epiphany and Pentecost, when we focus on the mission of the church. Purple and blue have been the traditional colors of Lent and Advent, seasons of penitence and preparation.

In more recent times, a number of churches have adopted blue as the color for Advent and purple for Lent. Blue represents hope and expectation, while the purple represents preparation and penitence. Deep blue is the color of the predawn sky, the color that covers the world in the dark, cold hours before the dawn. It is meant to inspire us in the hope of faith, and to encourage us to keep watch for the promised light of Christ, changing night into day, and darkness into light. As the color associated with Mary, blue reminds us that during Advent the church waits with Mary for the birth of Jesus.

For more about the Presbyterian liturgical seasons visit:

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/faq-signssymbols/>

NEXT CONCERT OF THE 2015-16 SEASON—Saturday December 5th, 7:30pm



This year's Christmas Concert brings a joyous sparkle to the beginning of Advent with Christmas in Vienna. Enter a musical time machine and be led by your tour guide through an entertaining sparkling evening in old Vienna. Your tour guide will introduce you to the composers (hint: Mozart, Galuppi, Schubert and friends) who might have been performing during your visit. The concert will feature orchestra, the Concert Choir, and invited musical guests, and will be conducted by Simona Frenkel. Join us for this musical tour of romantic old Vienna, and then join the performers for a reception of hot chocolate and cookies in Fellowship Hall, back in the 21st century.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS
CHRISTMAS JOY

THE LIFE-CHANGING POTENTIAL IN A PROMISE.

This Advent season, we reflect upon God's promise of salvation. Made to each of us, and kept with the birth of Jesus, this promise has changed countless lives. Through the Christmas Joy Offering we make and keep two promises of our own: to church workers through assistance in their time of need and to racial ethnic education and leadership development.

Each of these promises is kept, equally by the gift you give, and each has the power to change lives. The stories below—just two examples among thousands—attest to the power of the promises supported by the Christmas Joy Offering.

Please give generously.



ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF THE BOARD OF PENSIONS



EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF RACIAL ETHNIC LEADERS



YPP's Annual Bake Sale—Sunday December 13th

It's the event everyone looks forward to! Stop by our tables from 8:30am to 1:00pm and let us help you with your holiday baking!

2016-2017 YPP Registration

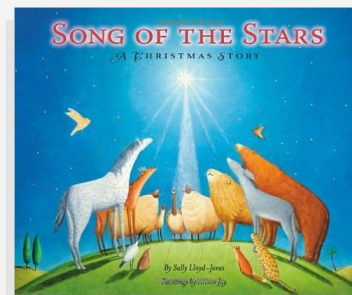
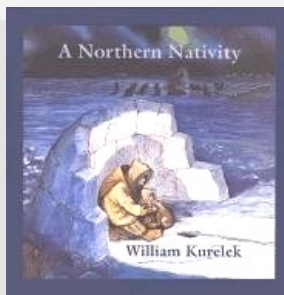
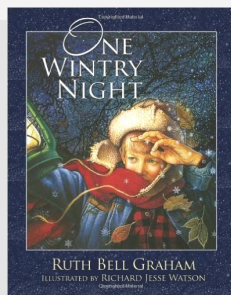
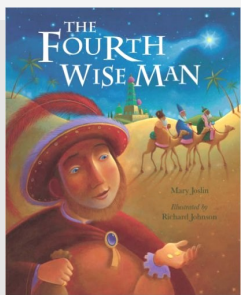
YPP will be accepting applications for the 2016-2017 school year starting December 1, 2015. This period is set aside for members of the congregation and returning students. Registration opens to the general public on January 1, 2016.



Please contact Lisa Eliasson at 962-8712 to arrange a tour!

Christmas Reading from the Church Library:

Add to your Christmas celebrations with books, from old favorites to some with unusual approaches!



For the Children (all with exceptionally beautiful illustrations):

The Fourth Wise Man – a beloved classic!

One Wintry Night – An injured boy, caught in a snowstorm, takes refuge in a cabin and hears the Christmas story. A new setting for a telling of the nativity story.

Song of the Stars – The stars, oceans, animals, and all creation announce “It’s time! It’s time! The One who made us has come to live with us!” Especially for younger children.

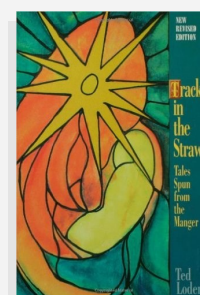
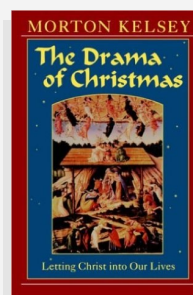
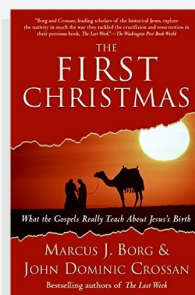
A Northern Nativity; Christmas Dreams of a Prairie Boy – William dreams and tells of the nativity in a Canadian setting.

For the Adults:

The First Christmas, by Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan (232.9 B) – the subtitle describes the book: What the Gospels really teach about Jesus’s birth.

The Drama of Christmas, by Morton Kelsey (232.9 K) – Explores the lives and thoughts of the major participants in the first Christmas.

Tracks in the Straw (232.9) – A collection of original stories centered around the birth of Christ.



-Carol Jensen, Church Librarian

Are you capturing your favorite FPCY events with your digital camera or smart phone?

We want to keep our new Gathering Space display full of the joy that happens in this place. Share your photos of worship, food pantry, youth events & more. Send your favorites to office@fpcyorktown.org **One request:** please turn off your date stamp as this can be distracting on digital displays.



Coming in January's Disciple:

Highlights of our Church History
2016 Stewardship Update
Food Pantry Update
February Concert Info
Summer Mission Trips & more!

Church School “Chalkboard”

Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season to all! Here is a little bit about what's happening in Church School.

We had a Special Event in Fellowship Hall — Our church school children did a fabulous job decorating our Christmas Tree! They made Cardinal birds, peaceful doves and fun cute owls (all birds from God's Creation), along with wreaths, Joy for the World ornaments and paper prayer chains. The children made seasonal cards to give to family and friends at the card making station. They baked sugar cookies in the kitchen and decorated them with frosting and sprinkles. Yum! The children also sang festive Christmas Carols with joyful voices to the wonderful guitar accompaniment of John Winget.



In our Re:form class (7th Grade and up) our youth continue with imaginative biblical experiences, discussion and honest answers to faith questions.



In our Connect class (5th/6th Grades) they have reviewed annunciation, nativity, consecration, Herod, and Authority. They are also studying baptism (Mark 1:9-11). Jesus is introduced as the "Son of God" and his ministry begins.



In the Spark classroom (Pre-K through 4th Grade) we have completed the "Fruit of the Spirit" unit. Some of the children have all nine Fruits of the Spirit memorized! How cool is that?! They have learned two songs, "Into my Heart" and "He has made me glad".

We have begun our “Jesus is Born” unit. Conversation “sparks” include:

1. What do you think angels look like?
2. How has Jesus been a gift in your life?
3. The Angels told the shepherds of Jesus' birth. Who can you tell about Jesus?
4. Get out your nativity set and retell the story of Jesus' birth using the characters.

Family activity:

Start a family Christmas tradition, sing carols or read Christmas stories together in your pajamas

The children are learning Christmas Carols during gathering time in preparation for our upcoming Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve. We are in the midst of pageant rehearsals. If your child is interested in participating, please let us know. It's never too late to join in; all children are welcome!

Just a reminder there will be no Church School on December 27th, but please do come to service, we resume Church School in the New Year!

To all our children, families and Church School staff, have a wonderful Christmas season filled with the Fruits of the Spirit - Joy, Peace, Love, Self-control, Gentleness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Patience and Kindness!

Peace,
Liza Placido and Michele Mosca
Church School Superintendents

FPCY YOUTH

December 13
Middle School Youth
4:30 – 6 pm
High School Youth
6 – 7:30 pm

December 20
All Youth
Christmas Caroling
3 – 6 pm

Questions? Please reach out to the church office by phone or email
youth@fpcyorktown.org

Thanks so much to all our brave Middle School actors and stage crew who participated in our staged reading of Jesus is Coming to Dinner in worship on Nov. 22nd!

December 13:
Middle School 4:30 - 6 pm;
High School 6 - 7:30 pm

Join us for games and songs as we enter the Christmas season and ask some big questions... game show style!

December 20:
Christmas Caroling!
All Youth 3 - 6 pm

Feel free to wear red, green, reindeer antlers, jingle bells or whatever festive gear you like. We are teaming

up with the Deacons to visit senior citizens of the congregation and spread Christmas joy! We will meet at the church at 3 pm, then split into two groups to carol, then return to church for food and fellowship time.

As always, all youth are welcome, whether you've been coming all year or not, so join us and feel free to bring a friend.



Have you volunteered at church activity such as a church clean-up day, greening or mission project? Do you also need community service hours for school? Make sure to speak to Steph or any of the adult youth leaders for a service hours form.

Many of our members & friends remember their loved ones at Christmas by helping to decorate the Sanctuary with Poinsettias.

Please fill out the form below or contact Lisa in the office (914-245-2186) or office@fpcyorktown.org

Names will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin. You may purchase as many flowers as you wish. Each can be in honor or in memory of as many people as you wish. The cost of each poinsettia is \$10.

Name: _____

How Many: _____ Enclosed: \$ _____

Inscription: _____

Poinsettias may be picked up after the 11pm Christmas Eve Service or left for the following Sunday.



2015 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Schedule



On Christmas Eve, our children will lead us in worship with the Christmas Pageant at the 4:00 p.m. Family Service. All children will have the opportunity to participate and to sing. We will be working on the songs during the Church School Gathering Time on Sunday mornings, as well as the Saturday rehearsals. There are also many speaking parts for children who would like to share their dramatic talent.

Rehearsals will be held on:

Saturday, December 5, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

(parts will be assigned)

Saturday, December 12, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 19, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 24, 2-3:30 p.m.

(final dress rehearsal)

If you have any questions, please contact any one of us on the Christmas Pageant Design Team.

~ Liza Placido, Jill Pagliettini & Tami Seidel

A Special Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown

will be held on Sunday, December 13, 2015, in the Sanctuary following the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service for the purpose of:

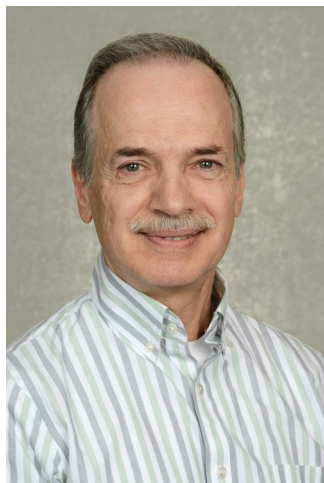
the election of two Youth Elders, Class of 2016,
the election of six Ruling Elders, Class of 2018,
the election of two Youth Deacons, Class of 2016,
the election of one Deacon Class of 2017,
the election of four Deacons, Class of 2018;

and to conduct any other business which may properly come before the meeting.

Welcome to FPCY's Newest Members!



Dora S. Kelly is a home health aide. Originally from Ghana West Africa, she lives in Yorktown. She is blessed with three wonderful sons, Jeremy, Jordan and Sheldon. Her boys and husband, Kweku, are still in Ghana, but she hopes to have them here with her one day. Dora enjoys reading and singing.



Marty Scatola and his wife Janet are from Yonkers, but moved to Yorktown in 1979. The Scatolas have two sons, Andrew & Craig, a daughter-in-law, Kristen (Craig's wife) & a grandchild, Madelyn. Marty is retired, but volunteers with the Yorktown Lions, the over-seas coupon program, the Danbury railway museum & the FPCY food pantry.



Craig and Kristen Scatola were born, raised, and are currently living in Yorktown with their baby daughter Madelyn and their fluffy golden labradoodle Jackson. Kristen is an IT Project Manager in Stamford and Craig is a police sergeant. They enjoy country music, hiking, cooking, photography and are learning how to start a garden.



Vinny and Amy Wallace live in Crompond, NY with their daughter Lily. Vinny is originally from Mamaroneck where he attended Rye Neck High School. He studied history and teaching at SUNY Albany. He was a lector at the St. Francis Church in Phoenicia, NY before returning to Westchester County. He currently teaches Social Studies at the Peekskill Middle School. He enjoys hiking and is an avid baseball fan. Amy is a Real Estate agent and the Marketing Director for Coldwell Banker Village Green Realty. Originally from Maine, Amy attended both NYU and Muhlenberg College where she studied acting. Her hobbies include all things theatrical, sewing, hiking, reading, and home improvement and decor projects.



Margaret Lipscomb grew up in the South, but lives in Yorktown Heights with her husband, Jim, and their son, Thomas. She is an RN who also volunteers for numerous organizations including the Boy Scouts of America. Margaret enjoys genealogy, traveling, history, camping and hiking, museums, old movies, music, cooking, and flower gardening.



Thomas Lipscomb has lived in Yorktown Heights all of his life. He graduated from the SUNY Purchase in Spring 2015 with a Biochemistry and Chemistry BA. In the Spring, he will go to NYU to pursue a Biology MS (Bioinformatics Track) degree. Thomas's main hobby is listening to music and audiobooks.

First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown
2880 Crompond Road
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Non-Profit Organization
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Yorktown Heights, NY 10598
Permit No. 20

The Disciple

December 2015

www.FPCYorktown.org

914-245-2186

office@fpcyorktown.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00

Co-Pastors

Rev. Chip Low

Rev. Tami Seidel



office@fpcyorktown.org



@fpcyorktown



Facebook.com/fpcyorktown

December

		1 9:30am Disciple 7:00pm Choir Dress Rehearsal 7:30pm Session	2 9:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle 7:00pm Disciple	3 6:45pm Bells 8:00pm Choir	4	5 9am Food Pantry 9:30am Pageant Rehearsal 7:30 Christmas Concert
6 Advent #2 Giving Sunday / Communion 8:30 & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Church School, Adult Ed, & Confirmation Knit Togethers' Show & Tell 12:00pm Youth Bells 3:00pm Ted Crockett Memorial	7	8 2:30pm Noontime Meal (Peekskill) Hudson River Presbytery @ FPCY 7:30pm Worship	9 7:00pm Disciple	10 6:45pm Bells 8:00pm Choir	11	12 9am Toys for Tots 9:30am Pageant Rehearsal
13 Advent #3, YPP Bake Sale 8:30 & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Church School, Adult Ed, & Confirmation 12:00pm Youth Bells 4:30pm MS Youth Group 6:00pm HS Youth Group	14 10am Knit Togethers 7pm Church School	15 9:30am Disciple 7:30pm Mission Operations	16 9:30am Stewardship 10:30am Prayer Shawl 12pm Lunch Bunch At Colonial Manor	17 6:45pm Bells 8:00pm Choir	18	19 9am Food Pantry 9:30am Pageant Rehearsal
20 Advent #4 8:30 & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Church School, Adult Ed, & Confirmation 12:00pm Youth Bells 3:00pm All Youth Caroling	21 7:30pm Longest Night Service	22 7:30pm Education	23	24 Christmas Eve 4:00pm Family Service (pageant) 7:30pm & 11:00pm Candlelight Services (music starts 30 minutes early)	25 Merry Christmas office closed	26 6pm Jan Peek Meal
27 9:30am Lessons & Carols Service	28 7:00pm Green Team	29	30	31	1 Happy New Year office closed	2