

DATES TO NOTE:

Sunday, June 5
Legacy Sunday
& Communion

Sunday, June 12
Summer Schedule Begins
Children's Sunday
9:30am

Sunday, June 19
Celebrating the Gifts
of Men Sunday
Graduate Recognition
9:30am

The Disciple

On June 5, we celebrate Legacy Sunday, a time to think about what has happened over the program year that is almost over, what has happened in the life of our ministry and what we are passing on to people that they may live faithfully. Legacy Sunday invites us to reflect on our purpose to connect with God, one another and the world, and on the values we live by as members of FPCY's ministry. We reflect on the ways we are sharing God's good news far and wide, living the way of Christ and following the Spirit's leading. Our celebration will focus on both the Legacy of Learning and the Legacy of Giving.



Last fall, we started the program year with the theme "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it!" This theme has echoed through our Church School rotations, youth group meetings and adult education opportunities throughout the year. In adult education in particular, we have read about and discussed what it means to have a Green Faith, how water is a crucial part of both our lives and our faith, how we can integrate faith and science in meaningful ways, and what we can learn from faith traditions other than our own. So many seeds of thought, understanding and service have been planted through the prayerful study and conversation of so many in our church. The legacy of all this learning is only just beginning to grow, but already we have been blessed by greater knowledge and understanding, deeper connections with God and one another, and renewed energy for study and service.

Legacy Sunday also looks farther down the road to ask what we will leave behind once we are gone and have passed on this faith and ministry to the next generations of people. To that end, we look at how we are planning now so that the end of our lives is not a burden on others, but a gift we share beyond this life. Is your will up to date? Have you written out your wishes for a funeral service? Would your family be able to find important documents like a Living Will and Power of Attorney for estate and medical issues? What charitable contributions do you want to make from your estate after your death?

In 2014, the Session set up an endowment fund so that we could plan ahead and participate in the ministry of the church long after we have entered the eternal presence of God. The Session's goal in setting up this fund is to build a long-term way to supplement the ministry of the church as it continues to grow and evolve. We can be a gift and leave a legacy for many years. Some of our members have already made contributions to that fund. Others have added our church as a beneficiary in their will. So, we hope that you will prayerfully consider how you can build a legacy that gives faith, hope, grace and justice well beyond your days.

Join us in celebrating the legacy of learning and giving that has been planted and is growing in our midst. Our God is a God of wisdom and understanding, generosity and vision. Our God invites us all to consider how we can nurture faith and build a future that is secure in God's love and hope, joy and peace, a legacy of abundant life now and always.

Chip

Jan Peek Meal

Thank you to the Praudas for doing the May dinner and to Gloria and Bud Coccodrilli and Jessica and Robert Mayes for serving the Clients in June.

Help is Still Needed for:

Another family to work with the Corpolongo Family on July 23rd and one to work with the Gruber Family on August 27th.

September 24th and December 24th are completely available — two families for each month are needed.

Can you help out? Please call Pat Prauda at 737-4674.



Lunch Bunch will have its Summer Barbecue on Wednesday June 18th in Fellowship Hall at Noon.

All are invited.

Hot dogs and Hamburgers along with dessert will be supplied, so please bring a salad or any kind of picnic side dish to share (no chips please).

July will be Pot Luck.

Stewardship Commission



Planned Giving: Living Forward, Giving Forward

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

Our church believes in being able to serve God and our community not only in the next few days, months, and years, but even in decades. After all, the Christian Church is the oldest organization in continuous operation – for two thousand years - in the world today!

Planned Giving is about making a choice to give toward a better future for those we care about – including our church family. There are many different ways to give a gift to the church for the future: wills, charitable trusts, and insurance policies, to name a few. The most common form of a Planned Gift is through a will.

Now is a good time to review our wills and estates, because too many Americans put off this effort and sometimes end up failing to provide for those they love. A will is a unique document and must be structured to fit the needs and estate plans of each individual in accordance with the laws of the state in which each of us lives. A simple statement like this can be included in a will: “I give and bequeath the sum of \$ ____ (or the percentage of ____) to be used for the general program of the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown in Yorktown Heights, NY, 10598, USA.” The final choice is, of course, up to each individual, and when we make a Planned Gift through a will, we must access legal counsel, separate from our Church, to finalize our commitment.

To support Planned Giving, our Session approved the establishment of an endowment fund, into which we recommend Planned Gifts be directed. As that endowment fund grows, our church will benefit from the resources the fund generates to further our church mission, but more importantly, future generations will see the benefits as well. We can also contribute directly into the endowment fund with cash gifts during our lifetime. However, we choose to give, be assured that this commitment will extend well into the future, to support the most enduring endeavor we can imagine, the work of God.

Please contact any member of our Planned Giving Committee or the Stewardship Commission with any questions.

Members of the Planned Giving Committee:
Frank Hodgkinson, Tim Lupfer, Emily Monk, Jack Shaughnessy, Cathy Talbot, Carol Thorne Gaetani.

Members of our Stewardship Commission:
our co-pastors, Gloria Coccodrilli, Pam Darreff, Tim Lupfer, Jessica Mayes, Mariana Sherman, Cathy Talbot

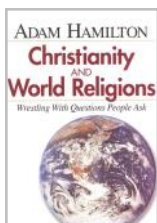
Thank you,
from the Stewardship Commission



Adult Education

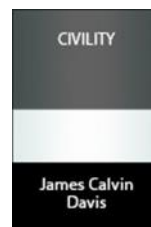
“It ain’t over ‘til it’s over” (with thanks to Yogi Berra and apologies for the poor English)!

We’ll continue our exploration of **Civility: American Politics and Christian Responses** on Sunday June 5th by asking, “What kinds of commitments, behavior, and practices does civility actually require?” This will be our last Sunday morning Adult Forum for this program year.



Our Thursday morning group continues its study of **Christianity and World Religions** using Adam Hamilton’s book of the same name along with a series of pilgrimage videos narrated by Bruce Feiler. We’re studying Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism and Christianity, and viewing sacred journeys in each of these traditions. The Thursday morning group will run until late June. We’ll be studying Judaism on June 2 and 9, and Christianity on June 16 and 23. On the first date listed we’ll discuss the chapter in the Hamilton book, and the second date listed we’ll watch the video Sacred Journeys. All are welcome to join for any one or all of these discussions.

Have some ideas for an adult ed program? Share your thoughts with any member of the Adult Ed Planning Team - *Shawn Cribari, Connie Knapp, Jean Post-Winget, Lynda Spring – or Chip or Tami.*



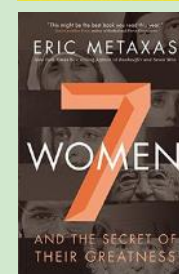
New in the Church Library:

Best-selling writer and public speaker Eric Metaxas’ book **Miracles; what they are, why they happen, and how they can change your life** (213 M) explores several aspects of the topic. He first asks the basic question of what constitutes a miracle and how it relates to scientific exploration. He then describes miracle stories, noting that he chose only those accounts from people he knew and trusted. They include personal stories of angelic visitations, visions that changed people’s lives, and healing and medical miracles.

Another Metaxas title is on an entirely different subject. **Seven Women; and the secret of their greatness** (270 M) contains mini-biographies of 7 important Christian women. We are familiar with the legacy of Mother Theresa. But what does she have in common with Rosa Parks, Susanna Wesley, Hannah More, Saint Maria of Paris, Corrie Ten Boom and Joan of Arc? These women span different generations and cultures, yet they are all women who did something beautiful for God. They lived their lives in surrender and in turn were agents of change in their generations.

Check out the New Books shelf in the Church Library for these titles and other ideas for your summer reading!

-Carol Jensen, *Church Librarian*



Knitting Groups



Prayer Shawl Group will meet next on June 1 at 9:30am and June 15 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 June 13 & 27, and July 11 & 25. We are busy knitting hats and mittens, lap blankets and baby blankets for December giving. At our meetings we enjoy trading patterns and viewing everyone’s progress on projects. Come and join us. All who knit or crochet are welcome. Our meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 10:00am to 11:30am in the Lounge/Room 15. Contacts: Norean Radke (962-4370 or radke30@msn.com) or Lois Ostling (962-2809).



Your Green Team has been hard at work this past month. Here are a few of the things we've been working on:

Jean Post-Winget and Theresa Kennedy coordinated a second trash audit with our youth. The good news is that we are making progress in separating our recyclables and our trash. The bad news is that we have more work to do. Your Green Team will be working on ways to decrease the amount of waste that we generate. Want to help? Contact any one of us. We're thinking composting, more ways to increase awareness (like big signs, or attractive recycling bins).

Reverend Susan DeGeorge spent time with us to educate us regarding environmental justice issues. We learned a lot from her visit and will be following up with possible local projects in the fall.

There's news about the labyrinth-see the article in this issue of The Disciple.

This is a great time to start thinking about where your summer vegetables might come from.

- **Hilltop Hanover Farm** in Yorktown not only has a farmer's market but also sells CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) shares. You might still be able to sign up here <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2548936> for a twenty week "farm stand" style CSA – you select the produce you want.
- **Roxbury Farm** is also still accepting shares. You can pick up in Mt. Kisco or Katonah (or Pleasantville), whichever is closest to you. You can learn more here: <http://www.roxburyfarm.com/store/2236> Roxbury Farm's CSA is a more "traditional" CSA in that you receive between seven and twelve different varieties of vegetables.

Questions about CSAs? You can learn more here https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture or ask around-some of us (for example, Connie Knapp) have been members for years, others were members but are no longer (for example, Donna Gresh) and we would be happy to share our experiences with you.

**Have a great summer, and remember to spend lots of time outside!
It's good for both your body and your soul.**

Your Green Team: Connie Knapp, Donna Gresh, Jean Post-Winget, Dave Ramage, Lynda Spring, Robin Corpolongo, Theresa Kennedy, Amy Wallace, Wendy Whetsel and Tami Seidel.

Good news about our labyrinth project!!! (From the Green Team)

We have been working for over a year on building an outdoor labyrinth and now we're ready! We received a Challenge to Change grant from the Hudson River Presbytery to support this project. And our own Boy Scouts of America Troop 165 will be making us a box to hold a guest book.

We'll begin on June 12th by clearing the space west of the outdoor worship space, and then labyrinth facilitator Lynn Brown will work with us on June 18th to lay out the temporary labyrinth.

After we've had a chance to use the temporary labyrinth for a while we'll be able to make whatever adjustments might be needed to build a permanent one. That work is tentatively scheduled for the fall.

Be part of this exciting project! Please plan to join us for one or both of these work-days:

- **Sunday, June 12** from 2 PM until about 4 PM to clear the space west of the outdoor worship space
- **Saturday, June 18** from 1 PM until 4 PM to lay out a temporary labyrinth

Questions? Contact Connie Knapp (connie.knapp@icloud.com) or Tami.

Questions about labyrinths?

This is a good place to start: <http://www.veriditas.org/New-to-the-Labyrinth>



Ecological Reflection for June

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; **Psalm 24:1**

The word of the Lord came to me: Mortal, set your face toward the south, preach against the south, and prophesy against the forest land in the Negeb; say to the forest of the Negeb, Hear the word of the Lord: Thus says the Lord God, I will kindle a fire in you, and it shall devour every green tree in you and every dry tree; the blazing flame shall not be quenched, and all faces from south to north shall be scorched by it. All flesh shall see that I the Lord have kindled it; it shall not be quenched. **Ezekiel 20:45-48**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.
May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

Psalm 126:4-6

Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Amos 5:23-25

These scripture passages from the Hebrew Bible talk about fire and water in the desert. Oh, the power of fire! The mixed blessing of water!

The name Negev (sometimes translated as "Negeb" as it is above) comes from the Hebrew root denoting "dry." It's a rocky desert, covering more than half of the country of Israel. In between the dusty mountains are wadis, dry riverbeds that fill with water and plant life in the infrequent rains. The northern part of the Negev gets about foot a year of rain, most of it between November and March. The southern part of the Negev, the Arabah Valley, gets barely two inches of rain. We were in Israel in January of this year. We were in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, and then we spent six days driving south and staying at spots in the Negev. The only place where it rained was on our first day in Jerusalem.

When Ezekiel tells the Israelites that the Lord God says, "I will kindle a fire in you" I can imagine the fear that this struck in the hearts of the listeners. With so little water, how will the fire be put out? And Ezekiel tells the people that the fire will not be quenched. I wonder, do the people of Fort McMurray in Canada today feel the way Ezekiel's audience may have felt? According to Bloomberg.com, the fires in Alberta Canada will be as damaging to the Canadian economy as Hurricane Katrina was for the United States economy.

So even today we feel the effects of fire and water, and we ignore their power and their threat, at our own peril. The kibbutzim that were established in the Negev, especially in the Arabah Valley, know the value of water. We visited the factory of Netafim at Kibbutz Hatzetim. Founded in the mid-1960's Netafim operates in 150 countries with 13 factories around the world. The story of Netafim is really the story of drip irrigation, and a documentary at the firm's site tells how the firm has "change(d) the face of agriculture worldwide." Here is a group of people who understand the preciousness of water. Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negev.

The Psalmist knows that with God, all things are possible. Water will flow in the desert, we will come home with shouts of joy, carrying our sheaves. Water is rare and precious just like justice. Amos tells us that God says, "let justice flow down like waters." In this passage from Amos I hear God asking us for environmental justice. We are called to protect our air, our water, the land and all that lives in it, because the earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it is the Lord's, and all those who live in it are the Lord's.

Connie Knapp, for the Green Team



Our Gardeners of Eden—tending to our lovely grounds.

The staff and children, along with the co-pastors of the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown, cordially invite you to

Children's Sunday
June 12, 2016
9:30 am
in the Sanctuary

Please join us as we celebrate another amazing year of our faith journey during this special service

No RSVP required.

Church School "Chalkboard"

Hello to all from Church School!



Re:form: The 7th and 8th Graders have been focusing on the New Testament figures including Mary, John the Baptist, the Disciples and Simon Peter. They have begun writing prayers for Children's Sunday and will complete those prayers over the next few weeks. The children are looking forward to leading the congregation in prayers on Children's Sunday!



Connect: From our 5th and 6th Graders: In Acts 4 the children and teachers learned how Peter and John began sharing the good news of Jesus. Jesus had warned his disciples that they would be persecuted but would be saved in the end. The priests arrested John and Peter when they

healed a lame man in the temple. The crowd believed the healing was a miracle so the priests had to release them. In Acts 10 Peter had a dream that the disciples were supposed to spread the gospel to both Jews and Gentiles. Today God wants us to share the good news with all who have ears to hear it! In Revelation 21 John of Patmos had a vision of God's victory and redemption of all things. Today we can join God

in the quest to bring the world closer to wholeness. The class is now busy preparing their presentation for Children's Sunday. Each child has chosen an icon and Bible passage from the curriculum to share with the congregation.

Spark: The children have finished their rotation on "Jonah and the Big Fish" from Jonah 1-4. On May 22nd Church School lessons came to an end. May 29th we will watch a Veggie Tales movie about Jonah and enjoy special snacks and popcorn!



On June 12th please all join us for our Children's Sunday Service.

The children are busy preparing their work to share with you some of what they have learned over the Church School Year!

Thank you to all of our families and staff that make Church school the wonderful program that it is!

Peace,
Liza Placido and Michele Mosca
Church School Co-Superintendents



FPCY YOUTH

Wow! How did it get to be June already? I don't know about you, but it feels like this year has been going by crazy fast.

I'd like to extend a big thanks to Debbie Bernardini for hosting our first ever Youth house for the **Progressive Dinner** in May! Thanks for being such a wonderful host, Debbie (and thanks to Lucky the dog too)!

Our next Youth Group gathering is on Sunday, June 12th. All Youth are invited to help out with the **Labyrinth clearing work party** which starts at 2 pm. Please wear sturdy sneakers and work gloves (and maybe a little bug spray would be a good idea too). If you can bring a rake from home, that would be great!

After the Labyrinth work party, we will have an **End of the Year Youth Celebration** from 4 - 6 pm, with games, snacks, and pizza. We will celebrate this year of fellowship and service, and this time of transition for everyone. All Youth from 6th - 12th grade are invited.

Even though it's time to look forward to Summer vacation, the Youth of FPCY are hardly slowing down. Teen counselors (those that have completed 6th grade on up) are needed for **Vacation Bible School** in July - see the VBS announcement and website for more details. Speak to Steph or Tami with any questions. Fun times are going to be had by all.

Plans are in the works for the 2016-17 year of activities. If any youth have an idea for an activity or project that you think would be fun for Youth Group, feel free to send Steph an email or a text (or a Tweet, a Facebook message, an Instagram photo, or just talk to me, that's good too).

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 12th!

Steph, *Director of Youth Ministries*

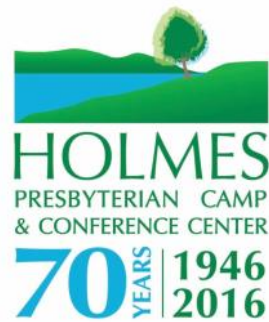


Get ready for VBS 2016!

July 11-15, 9 am -12 noon
Yorktown United Methodist Church
Teen Training — July 6-8, 10 am - 12 noon

Go to cokesburyvbs.com/yorktown to register.

Questions? Contact Tami Seidel.



Camp isn't just a place for children and youth - it's for families, of all kinds, as well! Looking for a fabulous, faith-based, affordable family vacation? Look no further! Holmes Presbyterian Camp and Conference Center is offering **Family Camp (July 1-4)**! Enjoy all of the great Holmes' traditions together as a family. Another family option is **You and Me Camp (July 15-17)**, which gives campers entering 1st-3rd grade an opportunity to explore what summer camp has to offer with an adult companion - a parent, grandparent, other family member or even a family friend!

For more information and to register for these, or other, programs at Holmes this summer, visit us online at www.holmescamp.org! If you have any questions, contact the Holmes office by email at holmes@holmescamp.org or by phone at (845) 878-6383.

Deacons' Corner

I don't know about you, but growing up I was often confounded by the teachings of Jesus. In Sunday School we would learn Jesus' parables and many times I was left confused – sometimes even angry. My mind often couldn't wrap itself around what Jesus was trying to teach us.

One parable I specifically remember was about the vineyard owner who was desperate to hire workers to bring his grapes to harvest. The workers he hired in the early morning hours of that day were promised a certain wage for their work. That seemed fair to me. What I could never understand though is why each successive wave of hired workers who came on later and later that day ALL received the same amount of pay!! Did you ever wonder about that?

My Grandmother, whom I loved very much, was well known for saying things like "God works in mysterious ways!!" That didn't

really fly with me when I was a child as you can imagine. I didn't even know who this God was exactly either – much less how He was working. She also often said "God willing!" a lot, especially when I would suggest that we go somewhere or do something I wanted to do.

I guess sayings like that worked for my Grandmother

and are what got her through the poverty she experienced during The Great Depression as well as the many ups and downs of her long life. But as a child and young adult, I found little comfort in Grandmother's sayings and took less heed of them when trying to find guidance for my own life.

Strangely though, as I found my own life unfolding with all of the challenges and varied experiences accumulating over the years, my willingness to see things the way my Grandmother did started to inform my thinking and more of my decision making. I started to live by "God works in mysterious ways" and "God willing."

How often have we all lived through and survived situations we had no control over and no idea how to "fix?" - perhaps the grave illness of our child, the slow loss of a loved one to dementia or the sudden death of a spouse or friend?

And yet, didn't we somehow come through? Was it all the prayers people said they said for us? Was it our own human limitation of not being able to see into the future that forced us to just accept one day at a time until we came out on the other side of the storm, the crisis or the tragedy? More and more I realize over the years that, indeed, "God works through all things in mysterious ways!"

There is another of Jesus' teachings that always made me wonder. You know the one that says "it is more blessed to give than to receive?" I never got that one either. But recently I heard a seminar by a wonderful teacher, healer and spiritual leader. Dr. Wayne Dyer spoke of a scientific study that was done researching "Acts of Kindness" - acts like helping others, serving others, giving to others.

You know what the researchers found? Get this. The serotonin levels in the brains of the people doing the acts of kindness increased. And do you know what that means? That person's feeling of wellbeing or happiness increased. Why? Because serotonin is a neurotransmitter that works in your brain and is necessary for the

overall functioning of the brain. Serotonin contributes to a person's sense of wellbeing. When serotonin levels in the brain are too low people can feel depressed, anxious, unfocused and generally out of balance.

Many of the anti-anxiety and anti-depression medications used today are serotonin re-uptake inhibitors." That means they act to prevent the levels of serotonin from dropping in your brain – from being re-upped. The drugs act to insure that the Serotonin your brain makes or has stays working for you in your brain.

So now to backtrack, can acts of kindness by a person actually increase serotonin levels in your brain and lead you to a greater sense of wellbeing? Yes!! According to the researchers. So it is true that it is more blessed to give than to receive! Can any of you vouch for that from your experience? So Jesus is right!

BUT, even more was found during the study. The serotonin levels also increased in the brains of those people who were the recipients of the acts of kindness! Wow! Even more mysterious.

BUT wait, even more! The serotonin levels also went up in the brains of people who happened to observe and were present to watch those acts of kindness. Honest? If these scientific results are truly accurate and reliable as the scientists claim they are, then God DOES truly work in mysterious ways! Thanks be to God! Now do we need any more reason for doing our own acts of kindness whenever we can, as often as we can, to all the people we can, in all the ways we can, by all the means we can? (to paraphrase a quote John Wesley – founder of the Methodist church.)

Here at the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown we are always looking for more ways to better serve and carry out Jesus' command to love one another... to feed my lambs...to become a servantto serve.

Carl Anderson heads up the Diaper Ministry for the Deacons. This month Carl is asking that you all save and bring in coupons you get in your mail for diapers. Hand them off to Carl or to Pat Prauda who does the shopping at BJs for these coffee hour supplies as well as the diapers. Bjs coupons are particularly welcomed and can also be left in the church office with Lisa.

In addition, the "Item" of the month for June is also spaghetti/pasta and sauce. Please leave these items in the basket in the gathering space near our bulletin board.

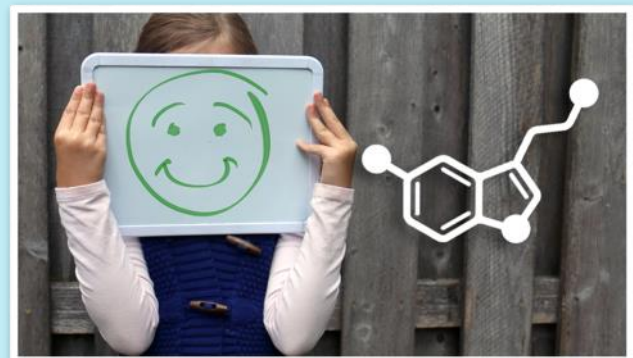
God bless you all as you continue to find ways to serve and as you look around and see with wonder all the beauty of God's creation and the many ways God works in and through our lives in such mysterious ways.

~Carol Thorne-Gaetani for the Deacons

Food Pantry Item-of-the-Month

Spaghetti/Pasta

Next Dates:
June 11, 25 and July 9 & 23
9 to 11am



Help Support Our Mission Trip to Atlanta



Send your hands and feet with our team's hands and feet to serve in this year's mission trip to Atlanta in August. Please support our efforts by coming to our table on Sunday, June 5 and June 12. With a donation, you can place your name on a "hand" or "foot" that will hang in the Gathering Space to show your support for our team.

Your donation will help us to close the gap. We still need \$1100.00 to reach our goals to fully fund this trip. You can also:

1. Bring your REFUNDABLE bottles to the box in the Gathering Space. John Prauda will redeem them for the Mission Trips.
2. Buy a bag of Dean's Beans coffee on the 1st of each month or speak to Heidi Haring, if you miss that Sunday. We will be adding whole bean coffee and dark roast coffee to the choices of Columbian medium roast and Decaf. They are \$12 a bag for a WHOLE pound, roughly comparable to a bag of good coffee at the grocery store, except that this is certified Fair Trade AND Organic coffee, plus you are helping the earth and hard working poor people to make a decent living. That's quite a lot for your dollars!
3. Make an online donation to Mission via MyFPCY

Help us make our goal by choosing one or more of these opportunities to support FPCY's mission trips. Thanks for your help!



Thanks to a generous anonymous giver, we now have a new, more energy efficient, sub-zero freezer for the Food Pantry.



**Remember Amnesty Sunday,
June 19.**

Here's a chance to "do justice and walk humbly with your God". Come sign a letter, address an envelope and help stand up for those who are falsely accused, abused, etc.

Letter campaigns have succeeded in securing prisoner releases and have in some cases, effected change in the way people are treated. Come help make a difference!



Budget Results for the First Quarter of 2016

As in many years past, the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown is operating with a challenge budget this year. That budget projects a deficit of \$ 47,502 in 2016, based on **total income** of \$ 557,400, **operating expenses** of \$ 572,402, and manse and church **maintenance reserve** contributions totaling \$ 32,500. It is called a challenge budget because it will be a challenge to close that deficit - without dipping into our reserves.

At the end of the first quarter, that challenge was still apparent. **Pledges and offerings** totaled \$124,602 – which is \$ 4,948 (4.1%) ahead of last year's giving. However, **operating expenses** totaled \$ 150,239 – which is \$9,008 (6.4%) higher than last year's expenses

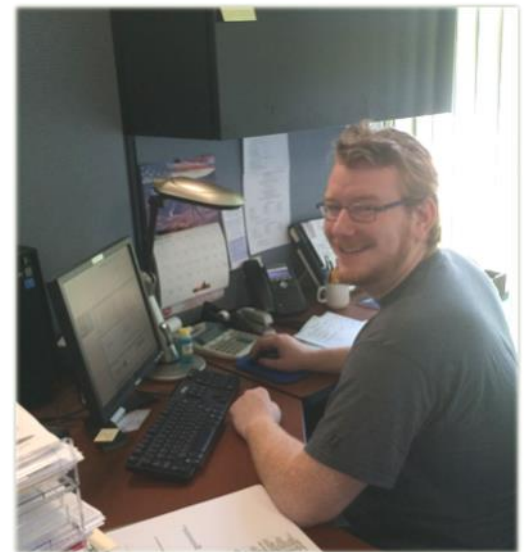
at this point, primarily due to increased personnel expenses (Youth Director, new part-time bookkeeper), worship enhancement (the new tenor leader), and mission-related activities—all budgeted costs.

While the **operating expenses** in total are up from last year, there is also good news within them. Although our Operations Commission has been very busy, our **buildings and grounds** expenses have significantly contributed to reducing expenses. At \$21,665, they were \$8,993 less than at this point last year. Lower **Fuel oil** and **Gas/Propane** expenses were major contributors to this, but Operations has long been laudably proactive in its efforts to reduce our operating expenses.

In the first quarter, FPCY renegotiated its mortgage on our manse – which we co-own. This will result in significant interest savings for both FPCY and its pastors. In addition, Lisa Flanagan, our Office Manager, found a way to cut our color printing costs – without reducing our color printing quality or volume. Taken together, these actions will reduce future FPCY expenses by several thousand dollars per year.

Lastly, in a volatile market, our reserve investments were up by 0.65% – which reinforced our reserves and our future ability to fund our many missions.

Beth Gruber and Fred Mintzer
Co-chairs, FPCY Budget and Finance Commission



A "new" face in the office — Willie Herman is now our part-time bookkeeper. Willie recently completed his MBA with a focus in accounting at Pace University. He has been a tremendous help to Lisa and our treasurers!

Silent Samaritan Fund

Silent Samaritans are people like the Good Samaritan who want to help people in need, but who prefer to remain anonymous. Formerly known as the Pastor's Relief Fund, the fund has been renamed to state more clearly its purpose—to give people a way to make donations that help others in times of need or crisis (car repair, tank of gas, rent payment, general help, etc.), but want to do so as a Silent Samaritan donor. **Be a Silent Samaritan by making a donation at any time throughout the year.** Speak to the pastors about thoughts you have about donations. Gifts from the fund will be made as needs arise. Thank you for your support of our church family and community in so many ways.

Building Use Audit

As many of you know, our church building is very utilized, not just on Sunday mornings, but all throughout the week. In fact, we are experiencing bottlenecks in space usage on Sunday mornings and other times during the week. In order to evaluate and maximize how our current space is being used on a daily, weekly and monthly basis, the Session has created a Building Use Audit Team from various commissions and committees. This team will analyze the use of all spaces in our facility (rooms, closets, hallways, etc.) and determine what recommendations, if any, need to be made back to Session about how to reconfigure the way our space is being used by our church members and community groups. Chaired by Katharine Frase, the team members are Debbie Amorese, Debbie Bernardini, Robin Corpolongo, Matt Hager, Stephanie Hare, Heidi Haring, Chip Low, Liza Placido, Bill Winsted, who represent Church School, Education, Operations, Deacons, Worship Design, Mission, and Youth Ministry. A report is being developed for the July Session meeting so that any changes can be implemented by September.

Operations

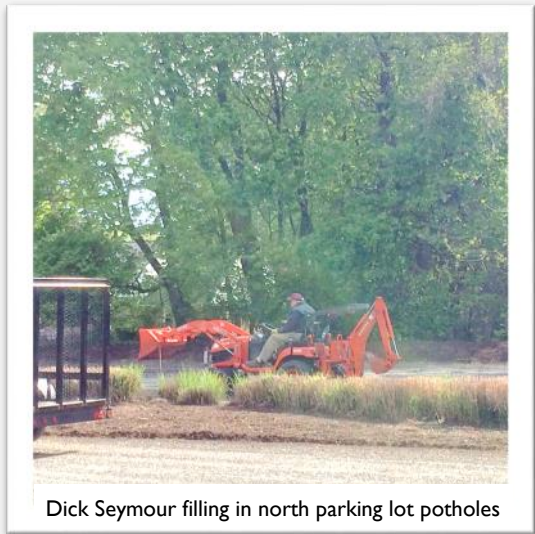
Improvement Projects

The largest planned project for the summer will be retiling the floor in Fellowship Hall. This project has been long awaited as the condition of the floor continues to worsen. The floor will be replaced sometime during the later weeks of July or beginning of August and should not get in the way of any scheduled events.

Another foreseen major project for the summer will be re-graveling and grading the North parking lot.

Maintenance

The operations commission would like to thank all of the volunteers that contributed to the spring clean-up. **Even though the clean-up was widely considered a success, there are still many tasks left to complete. For those that would like to help out please contact Dave Ramage or Kirk Larsen.**



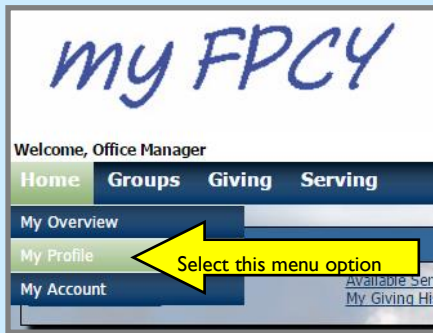
Dick Seymour filling in north parking lot potholes

Facilities update

- Mahopac Glass will fix broken & cracked sanctuary windows.
- Recent exterior light problems were caused by incorrect timer settings
- Hooks have been installed on the back of all sanctuary shutters to provide secondary retention
- Dick Seymour has temporarily filled in north parking lot potholes

Kirk Larsen, *Operations Commission Co-Chair*

MyFPCY— a living directory

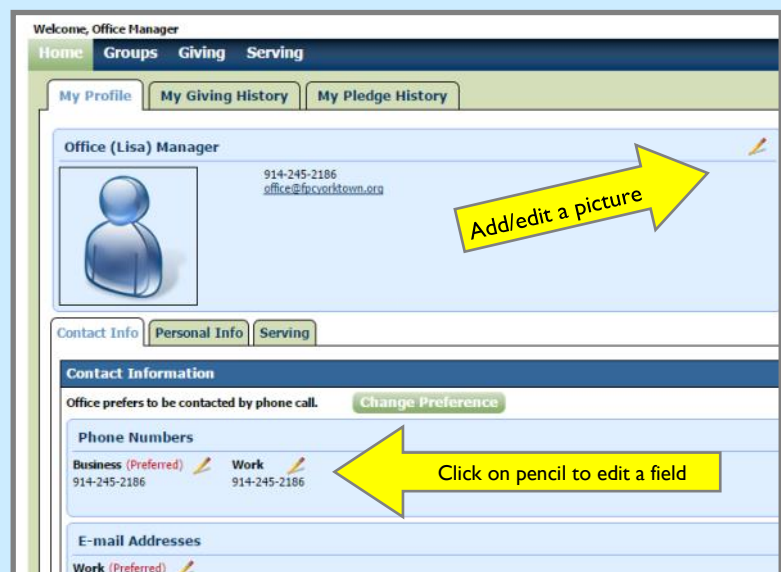


Do you want to get in touch with a fellow FPCY member but don't know their contact info? Sure, you can dig out a printed church directory, but the last one was from 2013. We've had countless new members join the ranks since then AND faces change...kids (and some adults) can be unrecognizable in 3 years!

Are you using MyFPCY? If so, have you looked at your contact information? Is your picture there? With our MyFPCY directory, you can take charge of your information. Switching to a new email address? Change it. Don't like your picture? Upload a new one! Contact details can change often.

Help us keep our living directory up to date. You may submit change requests related to your membership information at anytime. Those requests will be verified by the office manager and updated in a timely manner. You are the only person who has the ability to view your own family's detailed information. Other church members will only be able to view your name, address, phone, e-mail information (if you care to share it), and photo. This is the same information that would be printed in the church directory.

You can now add the church directory to your smart phone! Download the Church Life App from the app store. Use the same log-in information for MyFPCY. Features include directory of all church members, registration for events and mobile giving.



First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown
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Non-Profit Organization
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 Permit No. 20

The Disciple

June 2016

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office@fpcyorktown.org

Office Hours:
 Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00

Co-Pastors

Rev. Chip Low

Rev. Tami Seidel



Facebook.com/fpcyorktown
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June

			1 9:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle	2 10am Bible Study 7:00pm Covenant Bible Study	3	4
5 Legacy/Communion Sunday 8:30 & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Church School & Adult Ed 12:00pm Mission Trip Meeting	6 7:30pm Session	7	8	9 10am Bible Study 7:00pm YPP Moving Up Ceremony	10	11 9am Food Pantry
12 Children's Sunday <i>Summer Schedule Begins</i> 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Covenant /Disciple Meeting 2:00pm Labyrinth Work Day	13 10am Knit Togethers 7:00pm Church School	14 2:00pm Noontime Meal Prep (Peekskill) 7:30pm Worship	15 9:00am Stewardship 10:30am Prayer Shawl 12pm Lunch Bunch 7pm Green Faith	16 10am Bible Study	17	18 9am Labyrinth Work Day
19 Celebrating the Gifts of Men & Graduate Recognition <i>Amnesty International Letter Writing</i> 9:30am Worship Service	20	21 7:30pm Communications, Mission, & Operations	22	23 10am Bible Study	24	25 9am Food Pantry 6:00pm Jan Peek Meal
26 9:30am Worship Service	27 10am Knit Togethers	28.	29	30 10am Bible Study		