



# Thankful



## DATES TO NOTE:

Nov 6  
All Saints' Day  
Communion &  
Commitment Sunday

Nov 13  
Peace & Justice  
Sunday  
Alternative Giving Fair

Nov 20  
Congregational  
Brunch  
Alternative Giving Fair  
6:00pm Community  
Thanksgiving Service  
@HVICC

Nov 26  
Hanging of the Greens

# The Disciple

### From Fruitful to Grateful

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;  
for God's steadfast love endures forever!  
Psalm 118:1

After focusing on fruitful living for the fall, where do we go next? This month we enter the "official" season of thanksgiving, but as people of faith we are called to be thankful all year-round. Nonetheless, this time of year brings the practice of gratitude front and center.

This month our Sunday School children will be learning the story of the 10 lepers (Luke 17:11-19). Ten lepers approach Jesus, begging for mercy. Jesus tells them to go and show themselves to the priests, which can only mean one thing – that the lepers have been healed of their disease and are now able to re-enter the life of the community. Stunned by their good fortune, the lepers rush off to find the nearest priest so they can be declared clean. Surprisingly, only one of the lepers turns around and comes back to Jesus to say thank you. He kneels at Jesus' feet, praising God and shouting his gratitude at the top of his voice. And this guy was a Samaritan, not even one of the insiders who should've known better!

What this Samaritan leper experiences and then does provides a window into our own Christian story. Anglican bishop and biblical scholar N.T. Wright writes, "When we learn to read the story of Jesus and see it as the story of the love of God, doing for us what we could not do for ourselves--that insight produces, again and again, a sense of astonished gratitude which is very near the heart of authentic Christian experience." Our experience of God's love and grace leads to overwhelming gratitude for all of God's gifts and blessings to us.

It is one thing to feel gratitude; however, it is another to actually express it. Henry Van Dyke once

wrote, "Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received. Thankfulness is the natural impulse to express that feeling. Thanksgiving is the following of that impulse." Thanksgiving is turning our feelings and our faith into practice, real words and actions.

In his 1963 Thanksgiving Proclamation, President John F. Kennedy said, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." As people of faith, we are called not just to count our blessings and feel grateful; we are called to express our gratitude, through our words and actions, in our daily living, worshipping God and sharing our blessings with others.

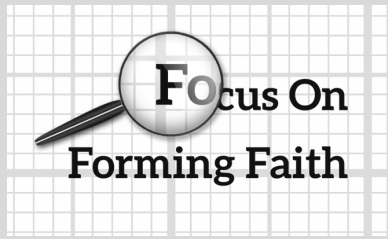
I am incredibly grateful for this congregation and all the ways you help me express my gratitude to God, through worship and prayer, through learning and relationships, through so many opportunities for service! This month in particular, we are invited to express our gratitude and practice God's generosity through the Midnight Run, our Food Pantry, the Thanksgiving Offering, and our pledges of time, talent and treasure for 2017, as well as ongoing opportunities like preparing meals for Jan Peek and the Noontime Meal program in Peekskill.

So this Thanksgiving, let's count our blessings. And then let us express our gratitude, giving thanks with our words and our actions, our faith and our lives, to God the giver of all good gifts.

See you in church,

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

~ 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18



### Focus on Forming Faith

How do we say thank you? Like so many things, thankfulness begins at home. One of the easiest ways to practice gratitude is to say a simple blessing before meals or before we go to bed at night. Here is a simple prayer that is very easy to learn and often helps us reflect on our blessings.

Thank you for the world so sweet,  
 Thank you for the food we eat,  
 Thank you for the birds that sing,  
 Thank you, God, for everything!

After saying this prayer, take some time to share other things from your day for which you are grateful. Write them down in a Gratitude Journal. Talk about them around the dinner table or at bedtime. You may be surprised and amazed at how different your life looks when viewed from a place of gratitude.

"Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good." -- Maya Angelou

### Stewardship Commission

The Practice of Extravagant Generosity helps us become what God wants us to be and assists us in our quest to live life as generously as God is to us.

To engage the practice of Extravagant Generosity, we are inviting people to tithe (10%) or to begin a journey of proportional giving.



To tithe and become a proportional giver, decide what percentage of your income you will give:

Income	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%
\$50,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$4,500	\$5,000
\$75,000	\$750	\$1,500	\$2,250	\$3,000	\$3,750	\$4,500	\$5,250	\$6,000	\$6,750	\$7,500
\$100,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$7,000	\$8,000	\$9,000	\$10,000
\$150,000	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$9,000	\$10,500	\$12,000	\$13,500	\$15,000

If you are already a proportional giver but have not reached a tithe, please consider raising your giving by 1% of your income. A letter from the Stewardship Commission has been mailed along with a pledge card. Pledges may be made with the card or online at myfpcy.org. If giving online, log into your account then click the green "Pledge Now" button (look for the "My Giving Summary" box on your homepage). You'll also be able to set up electronic giving, if you wish.



**We will dedicate all the pledges received to date on Sunday, November 6.**

Thank you for your prayerful discernment, faithful living and generous stewardship.

All gifts are an expression of our trust in God's provision for us and our faith in Jesus Christ as Lord over all of our

lives. Believing that giving makes following God real, prayerfully consider your pledge for 2017.

## A Testimony to Generosity and Fruitful Living

By Beth Gruber

When I think about giving, one word always comes to mind – gratitude. Gratitude for God’s love – for the life I’ve been given – for this church.

I’ve attended various churches – and given – throughout my life. But these days, church and giving have taken on a more profound meaning. I have to go a little deep now to explain why this is so.



When I was pregnant with both my children, I was seriously ill, in and out of the hospital throughout, doctors shaking their heads as to what was wrong. Toward the end of my second pregnancy, things took a turn for the worse. Margaret had to be delivered eight weeks early, and I required multiple surgeries and a long hospital stay that stretched out over months.

You would think that I may have turned away from God in anger, saying How could you do this to me? I had been ripped away from my family, living in near solitary confinement in a hospital bed, unable to see my children – what was there to be thankful for? In fact, what happened was quite the opposite. God showed His love for me in a way I never could have imagined. If someone told me something like this would happen to me, I would have said “you’re crazy.” But here it is.

During that awful time, I actually felt God holding me in his hands and comforting me. I can close my eyes today and still feel the profound sense of peace I felt, that feeling of being so near to God. I knew in that moment that I was protected by God’s love, and whether I lived or died, I would be okay.

And that sense of peace – and gratitude – is what carried me through those long days of recovery. It is what carries me still, because even now, as I continue to wrestle with health issues, I know that God is still holding me.

And my gratitude for this church? Well, it’s all about my children.

From the moment we got here a decade ago or so, my children were welcomed into this church. The very first time they attended Church School, Ellen went to the cooking rotation and got to make – of all things – Laffy Taffy. WELL, she came running out of the kitchen over to me, holding her taffy on a paper plate, and yelled to me, “Look at what we made! I want to come to church every week!”

As they got older, we had the incredible good fortune of being at the right place and time as the church began to revive its youth program. It was during their middle school years, a time which I think most parents would agree is pretty bleak. Uncertain of who they were and where they fit in, anxious about school and friends, sometimes to the point of wanting it all to just go away. Yet here, at church, they always felt loved and safe. They could be themselves, valued for who they were as individuals, not for what clique they belonged to. They saw in this church a place where everyone cares, where everyone is KIND. And they learned that you can grow up to be a caring and kind person and succeed. That being nasty and cutthroat is not the only way, despite our society’s glorification of those qualities. They know that real life isn’t “Shark Tank” – it’s this church.

And the proof is in their words; you don’t just have to take it from me. Ellen once said to me, “You know, church taught me about community service and giving back.” Margaret, while contemplating her life once she moves on to college, commented, “I think one of the things I’ll miss most is our church.”

My children are grateful for what the church has given them, and I am grateful for the beautiful young people that this church has helped them to become. There is no price tag you could possibly put on that. So, at the end of the day, for me giving is not a dollar and cents equation – and yes, this is coming from a CPA – it’s about gratitude. It’s giving thanks every day for the riches – of all kinds, not just monetary – that the Lord has blessed us with.

## Knitting Groups



**Prayer Shawl Group** will meet next on November 16th at 9:30am. 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. Any questions please call Marianna Sherman at 914-737-8294 or Fran Schiel at 914-245-5396.

**The Knit Togethers** will meet on November 14 & 28 and December 12, 2016. We are busy knitting hats and mittens, lap blankets, baby blankets, and scarves for our December community giving. At our meetings we enjoy trading patterns and viewing everyone's progress on projects. All who knit or crochet are welcome to join us. Our meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 10:00am to 11:30am in the Lounge/Rm 15. Contacts: Norean Radke (962-4370 or radke30@msn.com) or Lois Ostling (962-2809).



Be sure to check out the new painting in the Library. Our custodian, Jose Sandoval, secretly asked his niece in Guatemala, Beatriz Sandoval, to paint this in honor of our knitting groups and the work that they do. Thank you, Jose!

## Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will be meeting in Fellowship Hall on **November 16th** at Noon for their Annual Thanksgiving Feast {catered by Grand Central} and they will enjoy entertainment by the Golden Apple Chorus. Reservations and \$18 must be in to Pat no Later than November 6th.

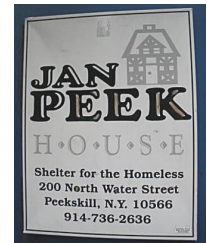
The Christmas party will be a lot of fun and is also being held in Fellowship Hall on **December 21st**, more information to follow as time gets closer.

Mark your calendars and plan to come. More information will be available as time gets nearer, but plan on having a good time!

**Dates to Save:** November 16 and December 21

## Jan Peek Meal

Thank you to the Wallace and Humphrey families for preparing and serving the Jan Peek Meal in October and to Larry and Denise Hetz for the November meal. We would like to get one more family to help out with the December 24th meal. If you are interested, please contact Pat



The 2017 calendar is up in the Gathering Space. Three months have been filled, but there are many opportunities left to get involved, so sign up today!

~Pat Prauda, 737-4674 or e-mail [ppladyofscotland@aol.com](mailto:ppladyofscotland@aol.com)

## Congregational Life

Congregational Life Commission hosted a farewell for David and Jocelyn Ramage during coffee hour on Oct 16. While we are happy that they are returning to the love of family in Canada, we will certainly miss them and appreciate all they have done for our church.

**We would like to invite the entire congregation to a Thanksgiving brunch after the second service on Nov 20.** This event will be vegetarian. Please sign-up in the Gathering Space so that we can estimate attendance. If you do forget to sign up and you would like to attend, please do!

**Coffee Hour Improvements** — In an attempt to save wear and tear on our backs, we have decided that we will set up two smaller coffee pots for regular coffee rather than one large pot. Each pot will be set up for 30 cups; the first will be plugged in before the 8:30 service and the second before the 10:45 service. If you've hesitated in signing up for coffee hour due to concerns of heavy lifting, we've made it easier. Please consider signing up to help for a Sunday or two!

## Noontime Meal



Many hands make light work, so if you can scrub carrots, potatoes, chop ham or celery, we can use you.

We meet each month at the Peekskill Presbyterian church (705 South Street, Peekskill—use the kitchen entrance off of Washington St), and in just 1-1.5 hours prepare a meal that the Salvation Army will serve to nearly 50 people the following day.

Our next dates will be Tuesday November 8th and December 13th at 1pm, please note the change in time. This is due to a schedule change in the kitchen at Peekskill Presbyterian Church. If you would be interested in helping out or learning more about the Noontime Meal please contact Pat Prauda at 737-4674

## Waste Not, Want Not: The Stewardship of Food

This month many of us will sit down to a Thanksgiving feast with family and friends. The table will be filled with the bounty of the earth and our lives. We will savor the special dishes and hopefully, we will thank God for our blessings, especially the abundance of food we enjoy.



Most of us take food for granted. Our cupboards and refrigerators are full. The grocery stores are a smorgasbord of choices galore. Rarely do we stop and think about where our food comes from or the systems of food production that keep our homes and stores so well stocked. Rarely do we consider our responsibility as stewards of God's wondrous gift of food.

In the first chapter of Genesis, we learn that God gives us all the plants of the ground and every tree that bears fruit and seed to us for food (Genesis 1:29-31). When God surveys this divine arrangement, God declares it good. Later, after the flood, God adds living creatures like animals, fish and birds to our diet (Genesis 9:3). All of this bounty is for our sustenance, our nutrition and our enjoyment. As the psalmist sings, "You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use, to bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the human heart, oil to make the face shine, and bread to strengthen the human heart" (Psalm 104:14-15). Not only does God's gift of food feed our bodies, but it feeds our hearts and spirits too!



As with all of God's gifts to us, we are called to be good stewards of God's gift of food and sustenance. Stewardship begins in gratitude. When we are grateful for the blessings we enjoy, we are far more likely to appreciate them and make sure they are used wisely. When we are grateful for our food, we are more likely to savor it and less likely to waste it. This is especially important today when our world is facing not only food shortages but the highest rates of food waste of any time in history. Food waste is not just a logistical and economic issue; it is a moral and spiritual issue for us as people of faith. If we are to be good stewards of God's gift of food, then we are called to examine our own patterns of consumption and tackle the systems that allow such waste to continue and so many people to remain undernourished and hungry.

This Thanksgiving, how can we honor the gift of life that God gives us in the food we eat and enjoy? How can we be good stewards of God's gift of food and ensure that everyone has enough to eat?

Our church already does wonderful work through our Food Pantry, Jan Peek, Noontime meal and Midnight Run. How might we express our gratitude to God and take our stewardship of food to the next level? Join us on Sunday, November 20, when we will give thanks to God for our many gifts and consider how we can reduce food waste so that more people may enjoy God's good gifts of food and abundant life.

## Food Waste Weekend

On **Sunday, November 20**, we are participating in a "Food Waste Weekend." Throughout this fall, thousands of other houses of worship – churches, mosques, synagogues, temples – throughout the country have partnered to bring awareness to the issue of wasted food, which is when food gets thrown away before it is consumed. This can be food anywhere – at a party, on the farm, at lunch, at your wedding, at the supermarket, even here at our own church.

The highest purpose of food is for feeding people [see above], and we want to bring awareness back to what all of our grandmothers used to say: 'don't throw away good food!' We don't want food to be wasted when there are hungry people in our community and nation. In the USA, 1 out of 6 people will experience hunger and food insecurity at some point this year.

On **November 20**, we will look at the issue of food waste in our Sunday morning adult education and worship services. Our Green Team will be working with our various church programs to consider ways that we can limit our food waste here at church.

Please talk with our Green Team or go to [www.foodwasteweekend.org](http://www.foodwasteweekend.org) to learn more about the issue and how you can help.

MIDNIGHT RUN—HELP STILL NEEDED (By November 10th):

- Bring remaining items needed: Washcloths, shaving cream, combs, new socks, new underwear—sizes L & XL, long johns, warm pants—not dress pants, Sweaters and sweat-shirts, long-sleeved shirts, jackets, shoes and sneakers in good condition in men's sizes 8-13, blankets, warm hats and gloves.
- Make 10-12 lunches, minus the sandwiches as another group is doing them. We need to add a salty snack, a hard boiled egg or soft protein source, a sweet snack, a soft fruit and a juice box.
- Go on the Run — we have at least 3 spaces left and could use some more teens.
- Help sort clothing on Thu. Nov. 10 or Fri. Nov. 11.
- Help in the kitchen before the Run, at 5:30 pm, NOV. 11
- Help clean up after the Run: Saturday morning Nov. 12 --clean coffee urns, soup pot, utensils, Store extra sugar packets, cups, etc.



Please sign up in the Gathering Space or contact Heidi Haring: [hkharing@optonline.net](mailto:hkharing@optonline.net).  
THANKS SO MUCH for your help!

ANNUAL ALTERNATIVE GIVING CHRISTMAS MARKET: Sundays, November 13 and 20;



The Christmas market is sponsored by the Mission Commission and the Sunday School to promote the ideas of honoring Jesus' birthday by helping others with the gifts we purchase and of buying less commercial Christmas gifts. Through this market, our Sunday School hopes to remind the kids whose birthday Christmas truly is-- Jesus'-- and while presents are nice, that is not the main purpose of Christmas. We also hope that through this market they learn about the needs of others and fair treatment through the purchase of these Fair Trade gifts.



We will continue to sell hand made items from various developing countries including India, Indonesia, Philippines, Africa, Central and South American, etc. The organizations that back the small co-ops that produce our goods are SERRV International and 10,000 Villages, as well as Dean's Beans-- our popular guaranteed Fair Trade coffee and organic hot cocoa provider.



We will also be selling shares of animals and fast-growing Moringa tree seeds through our Presbyterian Giving Catalog. Our denomination has been empowering women and families through gifts of pigs, goats, chicks, and cows for a number of years now. Last year, we sold Moringa tree seeds through this catalog, which helped to re-forest the Dominican Republic.

Come support our World Mission project for this year; give the world a present for Christmas. You'll get a lot of "bang for your buck": an honorable gift for Jesus' birthday, helping others earn a living, saving the planet with sustainable farming and animal husbandry AND some unique Christmas presents to boot!



*These kids could*  
**HELP A VILLAGE.**

Milk, cheese, yogurt, and butter. A pair of goats gives a family in need a sustainable source of nutrition— and your generous gift can make that happen.

*Buy shares of goats and more at our  
Fair trade Market*

Sundays, Nov. 13 and 20.



## The Ministry of Our Deacons

### Visitation Ministry

Do you know that the Deacons offer a visitation ministry? They have an active practice of visiting members of our church family who are ill or homebound (including people who are not members of the church, who may be a relative of a church member). Sometimes the visits are in person, sometimes by phone. For example, in a recent month 11 different people were visited, some several times that month. Some visitors began this ministry as Deacons but enjoyed it so much that they continued their ministry after their term as a Deacon was up. Terri writes "The thing is that you really get to know a lot of these people and you want to stay in touch with them, even if you are no longer a Deacon. You form lasting relationships."

Sue Nelson, Heidi Haring, Christine Lazarus, Marianna Sherman, Terri Froehlich, and Jocelyn Ramage serve the Deacons as "visitors." A few stories:

Marianna writes: "Ken and I visited the Fischers at Seabury when they were alive and with us. A great couple. This one time we had another good visit and as we were ready to go they said you must stay for lunch with us. So they ordered a lunch for four in an adjoining alcove in the dining room and we feasted together. They were always so appreciative of the visits. Lunch was delicious in many ways." Of the Fischers Terri writes: "Sue and I would visit the Fischers often, they were a great couple and had lots of old stories. We went to visit Evelyn in the hospital one time and as we arrived Wendy, their daughter, said 'look Mom, it's tiramisu!' They had nicknamed us after the dessert, Terri and Sue (tiramisu) It was cute."

Terri writes about a visit "that Sue and I made to one of our church members. After a visit where we had spent a couple of hours catching up with and talking, she asked us when we were leaving if she could set up another visit. We thought it was so sweet and it really does make a difference in people's lives, especially ours."

Jocelyn wrote of a long visit she spent with one of our church family where they read together from "Earth Gospel," the study guide that we explored as a church this spring. She writes: "I read the opening sentences and scripture (John 1:1-5). We paused for meditation & prayer on this scripture and then shared the poem 'Another Voice.' We ended up with a prayer and the blessing based on Psalm 121:3-4, 'The guardian of Israel never slumbers, never sleeps. May God, ever attentive, ever wakeful, keep you this night.'"

These visitations offer friendship and connection to people who very much need it, and help demonstrate the warm hearts of those who serve.

**Hat and Mitten Tree:** Carol Gaetani reports that there will be another "Hat and Mitten" Christmas tree set up in the hallway leading into the sanctuary in early Advent. The Deacons would like to invite all of you to participate in this project again this year. The hats, scarves, gloves and mittens that you provide will be distributed during the Food Pantry in December. The Pantry clients will be able to select hats, mittens, scarves or headbands from the Christmas tree for each of their family members before obtaining their grocery items that day. "The Knit-Togethers" do an amazing job each year and contribute over 100 hand-made items. Members of our Congregation placed additional items, purchased from stores in the area or hand made, on the Christmas tree located near the Gathering Space. Several "friends" of the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown in the area also knit or crochet and donated hundreds of beautiful items. All together we have hundreds of beautifully hand-crafted, colorful and unique items to give to our clients. It is a joyful event for ALL involved!

**Toys for Tots:** Carl Anderson has been organizing the "Toys for Tots" drive again this year and has been able to obtain donations from two outside sources to date. There was a toy store going out of business in the area and Deacons were able to go and pick up numerous items for our upcoming December Toy distribution. The Lions Club had made another donation towards this effort. The Yorktown Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops will send scouts to assist and coordinate the effort on distribution day. Please join us by bringing in toys just before the holidays. There will be a drop off box set up for this purpose and further instructions appearing in the Sunday bulleting as the time draws nearer. We appreciate all of your support and know the Holidays will again be a wonderful time to show your love and caring for members of our community who look forward to the "Hat and Mitten Tree" and the "Toys for Tots" distributions each year.

*Carol Thorne-Gaetani for the Deacons*

### Food Pantry Item-of-the-Month

#### Rice

Next Dates:  
Nov 5 & 19 and Dec 3 & 17  
9 to 11 am

### Thanksgiving Offering 2016

100% of our Thanksgiving Offering will buy hams to supplement the food we give through our December Food Pantry.

Christmas hams are an "extra" that would not normally be provided.

Please give generously so that we help everyone enjoy the holiday season.



### Food Pantry Cards



Need a gift for someone who has everything? Looking for an alternative to the commercial Christmas gift? Need a hostess gift to take to Thanksgiving dinner or a holiday party?

Why not make a donation to our Food Pantry in honor of a friend or family member? Donations can be made in any amount AND they will be doubled via our matching program with the FPCY Food Pantry Trust!

For each donation, you can select a card that you can mail or deliver in-person. Look for the table in the Gathering Space after church around mid-November. We've created some new designs to choose from!

### Operations Commission

The operations committee would like to thank everyone who volunteered to pitch in and help at our annual fall work day. Mable Seymour helped coordinate volunteers and the lunch while Dick led the charge in tackling the long list of tasks that had to be accomplished in a day!

In addition to the many church members assisting, Mike Androsko (the Church's contractor) volunteered two of his workers and we also received support from some of the community groups that use our building throughout the year. Thankfully the weather cooperated allowing us to prepare the grounds for winter as it is fast approaching.

Kirk Larsen  
Operations Co-Chair





## Church School “Chalkboard”

Autumnal greetings from your Church School team! We are in full swing, and with the guidance of our amazing teachers and shepherds, the children are active and engaged in learning about God. It is truly inspiring to see such creativity and intelligence sparking from all of our children, from preschoolers to teenagers, as they learn new things and grapple with tough questions.

During gathering time, we’ve added another verse to our Church School song for this year (God’s Counting on Me, by Pete Seeger): “When there’s big problems to be solved, let’s get everyone involved. God’s counting on me, God’s counting on you.” At home, you may wish to discuss some “big problems”, and brainstorm ways in which your family can get involved in solving them, together with others in the church and community. Don’t forget that FPCY offers many service opportunities that are ideal for families – serving meals at Jan Peek House, helping out with Midnight Run, or volunteering at the food pantry, just to name a few.



In the Spark classrooms (Pre-K through grade 4), we are studying “The Widow’s Offering” as we discuss stewardship, and learn about true generosity.



All students should have received 2017 pledge cards for commitments of time, talent, and treasure. Please go over them together as a family, and don’t forget to return them! Next up, we’ll be learning about “10 Men Healed” (Luke 17:11-19).

**SAVE THE DATE!!** On Sunday, November 27, please join us in Fellowship Hall for the annual Christmas Tree decorating! All grades are invited, and feel free to bring a friend!

Some gentle reminders:

1. Please remember to register your child if you haven't yet
2. Please fill and return Photo opt-out form.
3. Please fill and return Allergy form.

As always, thanks to our wonderful parents for allowing us to spend this time with your children, and to our outstanding teachers and staff!

Peace,  
Michele Mosca and Jessica Mayes



In our Re:form classroom (7th Grade and up), the kids have been learning about what it means to be part of the reformed tradition. Parents recently joined the group for a class to watch videos and discuss what it means to be reformed and reforming.



In our Connect classroom (5th/6th Grades), the focus this year is on exploring the Old Testament. The group recently concluded its unit on “Beginnings”, from creation through the Tower of Babel. See the picture (upper right) and check out some of their work in the hall by Room 16!



## FPCY YOUTH

A big thank you is due to everyone who has been helping us put God’s commandment to love our neighbors into practice so far this fall! We’ve made many gallons of soup and organized hundreds of individual toiletries! All of these will go to help our neighbors experiencing homelessness in NYC during our congregation’s turn at a Midnight Run in November.

Youth Group will be meeting on Sunday, November 13 (Middle School at 4:30; High School at 6 pm), when we will be taking a closer look at who are neighbors are both near and far from us. Then on Sunday evening, November 20, we have our awesome yearly opportunity to come together with both Youth Groups the Confirmation Class and our greater Yorktown community at the annual Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service! This year’s service will be at the Hudson Valley Islamic Cultural Center. We will gather in the FPCY parking lot and carpool, so adult drivers are needed. Speak to Steph if you are an adult who can be a driver.

Stay tuned for some interesting musical opportunities as we get closer to Christmas! Any and all Youth are invited to all of our activities. Questions? Call, text, email Steph Hare: [youth@fpcyorktown.org](mailto:youth@fpcyorktown.org) , 914-826-1227 !



### Fall Dates to Save November

11/13 Youth Group  
4:30pm—Middle School  
6:00pm—High School  
11/20  
Community Thanksgiving Service at HVICC (evening)

### December

12/11 Youth Group  
4:30pm—Middle School  
6:00pm—High School  
12/18 Christmas Caroling  
All Youth, time TBD



First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown Concert Series  
presents

*16th Annual Christmas Concert*  
**Handel's Messiah ~ Plus ~**  
*Saturday, December 3 @ 7:30pm*

Reception to meet the Artists following the performance  
Suggested donation ~ \$20

## Concert Committee

On Saturday evening, December 3rd at 7:30, the Concert Series will offer its 16th annual Advent Concert. The first half of the concert will feature Handel's Messiah, (the Christmas Portion) with guest professional soloists, Adult Choir and chamber orchestra under the direction of Simona Frenkel.

Handel's Messiah is a beloved musical Christmas tradition and arguably the most popular piece of music in the world. The Christmas portion of the Messiah follows the story of Jesus' birth from early prophesy, to Bethlehem and the stable, and ends with the glorious Hallelujah chorus.

The second half of the concert will feature beautiful choral and instrumental music from the Ukraine reflecting the rich cultural history of this embattled nation. Start off your Christmas traditions with this glorious musical celebration of bringing hope into the world.

A reception will follow the concert in Fellowship Hall. A \$20 donation is requested to support the Concert Series.



Become a Patron  
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### Pageant Rehearsal Schedule

December 3 @ 1:30 pm  
December 10 @ 1:30 pm  
December 17 @ 1:30 pm

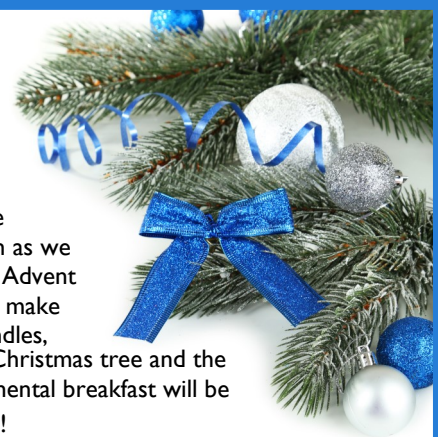
December 24  
2:00 pm (dress rehearsal)  
4:00 pm **Worship Service & Pageant**

## Deck the Halls

**Saturday,  
November 26**

All are welcome to become part of this holiday tradition as we decorate our sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. Many hands make light work as we put up candles, greens, roping, wreaths, a Christmas tree and the Christmas Creche. A continental breakfast will be provided. All ages welcome!

**We'll start at 8:30 am.**



## Welcome to FPCY's Newest Members!



**Bridget Bentley** lives in Yorktown with her husband, John, and their children Elliot (8) and Grace (5). She is a 4th grade teacher in Tarrytown, and John is a journalist at ABC News. When the family isn't at soccer games, piano lessons, and Cub Scout meetings, they enjoy hiking, camping, and singing along with the Hamilton soundtrack.



**Joann Campoli** lives in Yorktown Heights with her husband, Dave, daughter Kylie (9) and their 2 cats. Joann is a Sales Administration Specialist with Hitachi America, Ltd, specializing in International business. She enjoys reading, exercising, cooking and spending time with family and friends. She currently serve as a Pre-K Shepherd.



**Rebecca DiSisto** is engaged to Jason Leslie and lives in Yorktown Heights. Rebecca is a Physical Education teacher in the Lakeland School District.



**Jason Leslie** is engaged to Rebecca DiSisto and lives in Yorktown Heights. Jason is a Physical Education teacher.



**Alex and Lilly Golematis** live in Yorktown Heights. They have a son, David (13) and daughter, Skye (in college) and an 8-month old puppy. Alex is active in Law Enforcement while Lilly is retired Law Enforcement. They have been attending this church for a little over year. They both missed being a part of a congregation and the FPCY co-pastors seem to fulfill their hunger for the Word. Alex and Lilly enjoy the sermons, services and bible studies. They are both very happy to be here and are thankful for this congregation's warmth and kindness.



**Barbara Wanamaker** lives in Mohegan Lake with her husband John, son Jack & daughter Julia, 2 cats and a dog. When she isn't teaching Sunday School she enjoys walking their dog Murphie at FDR park, book club with Debbie Amorese, cooking & baking, and spin & Pilates classes. After being at FPCY for over 17 years Barbara realized she should formalize her participation and finally become a member!

**Community Thanksgiving Service**  
 Sunday November 20 @ 6:00 pm  
 at Hudson Valley Islamic Cultural Center  
 3680 Lexington Avenue  
 Mohegan Lake, NY

Join with brothers and sisters of different faith traditions in the Yorktown community to express our gratitude for the blessings of life and the earth that we share and enjoy.

A freewill offering will be taken to support Yorktown Community Help, FPC Yorktown Food Pantry, and St. Mary's Food Pantry.



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

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

# The Disciple

November 2016

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



Facebook.com/fpcyorktown  
@fpcyorktown  
@fpcyorktown  
office@fpcyorktown.org

November		1	2	3	4	5
		9:30am Disciple 4 7:30pm Session	9:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle 7:00pm Disciple 4	10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Disciple FT 8:00pm Choir		9am Food Pantry
<b>6 All Saints' Day/Commitment Sunday</b> 8:30am & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Adult Ed, Confirmation, & Sunday School 12:00pm Youth Bells 4:30pm Almost Christian Study	7	8 9:30am Disciple 4 2:30pm Noontime Meal Prep 7:30pm Worship	9 7:00pm Disciple 4	10 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Disciple FT 8:00pm Choir	11	12
<b>13 Peace &amp; Justice Sunday</b> 8:30am & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Adult Ed, Confirmation, & Sunday School 12:00pm Youth Bells, Deacons 4:30pm MS Youth	14 10am Knit Togethers	15 9:30am Disciple 4 7:30pm Mission Operations	16 9am Stewardship 9:30am Prayer Shawl 12pm Lunch Bunch (all invited)	17 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Disciple FT 8:00pm Choir	18	19 YPP Craft Day 9:00am Food Pantry
<b>20 Alternate Giving Fair</b> 8:30am & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Adult Ed, Confirmation, & Sunday School 12:00pm Brunch/Youth Bells/Deacons 6:00pm MS/HS Youth Group @ Community Thanksgiving Service	21	22 9:30am Disciple 4	23 7:00pm Disciple 4	24 <i>Office Closed</i> Happy Thanksgiving 	25 <i>Office Closed</i>	26 8:30am Deck the Halls/Hanging the Greens 6pm Jan Peek Meal
<b>27 1st Sunday of Advent</b> 8:30am & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Adult Ed, Confirmation, & Sunday School 4:30pm Almost Christian Study	28 10am Knit Togethers	29 9:30am Disciple 4 7:30pm Communication Education	30 7:00pm Disciple 4	1 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Disciple FT 8:00pm Choir	2	3 9:00am Food Pantry 1:30pm Pageant Rehearsal 7:30pm Messiah Plus Concert