

**DATES TO NOTE:**

**Sep 4**

Blessing of Our Hands

**Sep 11**

Worship & Parish Picnic  
in Downing Park

**Sep 18**

Blessing of the Backpacks  
Church School  
& Adult Ed Begins

**Sep 27**

Mission Trip Sunday

# The Disciple

## Faith Formation

I've been on the road a lot this summer, traveling for vacation, continuing education and service to the larger Presbyterian church. I spent time working with colleagues in the early years of their ministry, sight-seeing and visiting family and friends in my home state of Texas, doing energizers with 5,000 of my closest Presbyterian youth friends at Presbyterian Youth Triennium at Purdue University (including our eight youth and two adults who went), fishing, reminiscing and enjoying time with family and friends in Canada. Most recently, I spent a week at the Chautauqua Institution where I made new friends, learned about American jazz music from Wynton Marsalis and enjoyed amazing music, worship services and concerts. I will be reflecting for quite some time on all of these experiences.

During my time at Triennium, I attended a series of lectures on Young Adult Ministry, which turned out to be about youth ministry as well. The speaker started with youth ministry because the role of faith in our young adults is a reflection of how we are intentionally engaging our children and youth in the traditions of the Christian faith. It was an honest, sobering, and energizing series of lectures that didn't let me rest on my assumptions about youth and young adults. At the core of the lectures was the invitation to make Christian formation an intentional practice for people of all ages.

A massive study of the faith life of youth and young adults in this country made two key observations. First, the #1 resource children and youth have for growing in their faith is their parents. As go parents, so go their youth. Interestingly, it wasn't simply or only important that parents go to church. What was most important was how parents model faith in their everyday lives, from daily devotions to discussions of faith practices (e.g., prayer, Bible reading, attending church) to how they speak of their own awareness of God's presence and God's call to serve God's purposes in the world, not simply their own. The more parents lived their faith openly, the more children



and youth made it a priority in their lives.

In the book *Five Practices of Fruitful Living*, which will be guiding our fall theme *Fruitful*, Robert Schnase writes, "People who value Intentional Faith Development teach their children to learn about spiritual matters. They enroll them in children's choirs, Sunday school classes, or vacation Bible school. They talk with their children about what they learn. They cultivate a home atmosphere which encourages faith practices and rewards inquisitiveness, curiosity, and exploration of the spiritual life. They share wonder and honor the enchantment and mystery of life. They make their homes a place of affection where God's love is felt and God's grace is named. They teach faith."

The second finding was that young adults who had been part of an inter-generational faith community as children and youth were more likely to be involved in a faith community later in life.

(Continued on page 2)



### JOIN US FOR OUR PARISH PICNIC Sunday September 11, 2016

Come to the 10:45 worship at Downing Park  
and stay for a picnic.

Please bring a salad, side, or dessert to share and the church  
will supply the hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages.

Help is needed to make this a success.  
Sign up in the gathering space.

(Continued from page 1)

Although this was a distant second to the role of parents, it's impact is important nonetheless. Children and youth need many role models of faith, and they need relationships with faithful folks of all ages. Participating in a vibrant faith community where other adults besides their parents and the youth director know the names of children and youth and care about them and where they are invited to participate fully in the life of the church is crucial to their faith involvement later in life.

In contrast, parents who drop their kids off for Sunday School or enroll them in confirmation class to expose them to religion or check off some box on the list of raising a well-rounded kid make faith a transaction (something for personal consumption and often self-blinded to God). This approach typically doesn't have a strong enough impact on the future faith life of their kids. More often, it creates a belief in a generic deity, if that, without the teeth or power of the grace and love of God in Jesus Christ to be transforming.

However, parental modeling and a church that welcomes and nurtures people of all ages is a dynamic combination which creates a rich environment for faith formation in children, youth and adults. A church that makes Christian formation an intentional priority for all ages plays a powerful role in helping children and youth see themselves as part of something bigger in this world. It models for them that the church takes seriously the commitment it makes at the baptism of each child or adult to live the story of God's love in Jesus Christ now and for the world.

So, here is my invitation. Make faith formation an intentional priority of your life. Make it a priority for your children and youth. If you don't have children or youth at home, make it a priority for the children, youth and adults you promised to nurture in faith at their baptism. Stop asking someone else to model faith and life together for them. Stop making faith a transaction. Invest in your own growth and in our life together so that you can share the gift of faith that brings true meaning and purpose to life with others. Our newsletter this month shares many ways for us to grow more deeply in the grace and love of God in Jesus Christ. The Disciple invites us to be disciples. I look forward to what we will discover together about the God who created us, the Son who saves us, and the Spirit who sustains us in the coming program year together and how we will model the depth of that good news for all people, young and old, in our life and ministry together.

See you in church,

*Chip*

### Thursday, September 8 at 6pm in Fellowship Hall!

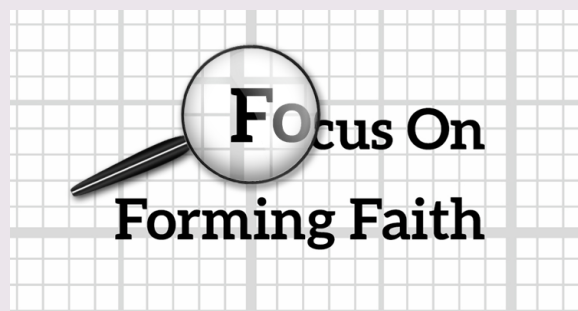
School age children and a caregiver are invited to join us for YPP's 5th Annual Welcome Back to School Concert featuring Beth and Scott and Friends!



As Chip wrote about in his article, faith formation is one of the primary purposes of the church and its members. Each month, we would like to highlight various people in our church family who are living this out in their daily lives and their families – through worship and prayer, Bible study, mission projects and ministries of care, compassion and justice.

This month we hear from Jane MacDonald, the busy parent (along with her husband Mike) of 3 active daughters, about why and how they make Sunday morning worship and Sunday School a priority in their family. If you know of someone who lives their faith in such a way that it forms the faith of those around them, please let me know, so we can ask them to share their experiences with us.

Forming faith together,  
Tami



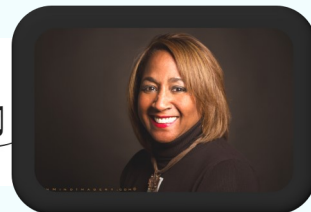
Summer is a wonderful time of the year when our family of five is able to take vacation and get a much needed break from school, sports, and extra-curricular activities. With school just around the corner, I always begin to stress about how we can fit everything into the schedule. This year will be no different as all three of our girls are heavily involved in multiple competitive travel sport teams and they have many games or meets scheduled on Sunday.

Our family tries to attend church service and Sunday school every week. While we definitely do not get the perfect attendance award for church service or Sunday school, we would consider ourselves regulars and our daughters know that church is a priority.

As schedules have become more demanding, we could have easily made the decision to drop church service as it would definitely make Sunday morning less chaotic given that we usually rush out of service or church school and head directly to a field or swimming pool for a long day of sports. We have prioritized church and listening to the word of God. Given all the activities that our daughters are involved in, it was important to us that our family carve out at least 1 hour per week to focus on God. We enjoy the ritual of going to church service, singing the hymns, taking communion, and listening to the stories that allows our family to gather perspective on life and our relationship to God.

Jane MacDonald

## Sixteenth First Presbyterian Church Concert Series Announced for 2016-2017



The FPC Concert Season kicks off its sixteenth season on Saturday, October 15th at 7:30 p.m. with a concert featuring **Glenda Davenport and her Jazz Quartet**. Born and raised in Mount Vernon, Glenda Davenport was a winner at The World Famous Apollo Theater's Amateur Night in April 1993. She has since performed with such jazz luminaries as Bucky Pizzarelli, Houston Person, Benny Golson, and Lou Donaldson. She has performed at major Jazz venues including the Saratoga Jazz Festival, and the Binghamton Jazz Festival. She performs regularly at jazz clubs throughout the tri-state area including The Village Gate, Birdland, Central Park Boathouse, Ashford & Simpson's "Sugar Bar", Saint Peter's Church and The Metropolitan Room in New York City. Glenda was a featured singer at our Bob January Dance Band Concerts several years ago, and she is featured bi-monthly at The Red Hat in Irvington. Glenda has released two CDs, *Sophisticated Lady* and *More Than You Know*. She can also be heard on Harvey Kaiser's *The Kansas City Sound*, Jimmy Hill's *Remembering*, *The Jazz Trio Alive with Glenda Davenport* recorded at the Silas Bronson Library, and on bassist Stephen Roane's *Dancin' in My Bones*. Join us in Fellowship Hall for a cabaret evening of jazz favorites. Refreshments will be served, and dancing is permitted!

**Other Concerts planned for 2016-2017:** Saturday, December 3rd at 7:30 p.m. Annual Christmas Concert featuring Handel's Messiah with professional soloists and chamber orchestra; A classical chamber music concert in March, and the Spring Concert in April.

The First Presbyterian Concert Series is supported by the generous donations of people like YOU! You too, can be a Concert Series Patron by making a gift of \$50.00 or more to the 2016-2017 Concert series either by check or e/transfer.



Become a Patron  
Scan to Make a Donation

## Stewardship Commission

### *New Ways to Participate in the Offering*

As we shared with you during our mid-year update, a growing number of people in our congregation are taking advantage of online giving through myFPCY. We welcome this development, which has a positive impact on the church's finances by making it easier and more convenient for people to give.

However, the prevalence of online giving has changed the character of the offering during our worship services. You may have noticed that the offering plate looks emptier, and that many people no longer have a way to participate, which presents a couple of concerns. **First, the offering is meant to be an act of worship**, in which we respond to God's grace by generously sharing the resources that have been entrusted to us. This act of worship should be open to all, regardless of how they give (online or by mail, weekly or monthly). **Second, the increasing level of non-participation in the offering paints a misleading picture of our congregation.** We are a community of faithful stewards, and the offering is an important way of fulfilling that commitment. It is also a teaching moment -- visible participation sets an example of generosity, particularly for our children.

In response to these changes, we are excited to introduce two new options that we hope will expand participation in the offering. One is a re-usable, laminated card that online givers can place in the offering plate, signifying that a donation has been made online. The cards also will contain a QR code that may be used to donate electronically by using a smartphone. The second option involves offering notepads, which we will make available in each pew for writing down brief descriptions of ways in which you intend to offer your time and talents to God, the church, or in service to others. We recognize that Christian stewardship entails more than just financial gifts, and so we invite you to place completed sheets from the notepads in the offering plate.

We hope that these options will increase participation during the offering, and open up new ways of thinking about this act of worship. (And of course, we always welcome offering envelopes, loose plate offering, and all the "old" ways of giving, as well!). Let us all be cheerful givers during the offering, with gratitude and joy for God's abundance in our lives!

Jessica Mayes for the Stewardship Commission





## Eco-Theological Reflection

How is caring for the planet caring for my neighbor?

As a Session member one of our yearly “tasks” is to speak with the confirmation class about our own faith as they “interview” us. Answering questions about what my commission (Communications) does, and how I see it helping our congregation is always easy for me. Harder are those personal questions about “what I believe.” I tend to fall back on two selections from the New Testament that are the simple center of my faith.

One day an expert in the Law stood up to test Him. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” “What is written in the Law?” Jesus replied. “How do you read it?” He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’ and ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” You have answered correctly,” Jesus said. “Do this and you will live.” Luke 10:25-28

Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you visited Me.’

Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and cloth You? When did we see You sick or in prison and visit You?’

And the King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.’ Matthew 25: 34-40

I will never claim to be a biblical scholar, and these are likely among the most familiar lessons to most Christians. But these directly support the reason why I feel that our GreenFaith effort is an important part of how we live out our faith.

Both of these passages speak to loving our neighbor, and as Matthew makes clear, loving those who are suffering, poor, hungry, or homeless. And there can be no argument that issues of pollution, environmental degradation, and global climate change hit marginalized and poor people hardest, whether here in the United States or across the world. This is partly because they tend to live in coastal or marginally fertile regions, but also because they do not have the resources to mitigate their situation, or move away from it. Participants from our church on the Hurricane Sandy mission trip last summer noted that “We learned about the economic impact to poorer families who often bought summer bungalows at low prices and needed to live in them year round. They are stuck in an area that is prone to flooding in light storms and are sitting ducks for very serious storms. They were the hardest hit economically, had the most homeless years afterwards, and were psychologically traumatized. Many were struggling with PTSD.”

Around the world rising sea levels severely threaten the poorest among us. A recent UN report writes: “Evidence suggests that climate change and climate variability and sea-level rise will exacerbate multi-dimensional poverty in most developing countries.” A report from The Nature News about Pakistan writes: “Residents say during monsoon, sea level increases and water enters their houses, making their already difficult lives miserable. They move into school buildings, which also affects education of their children. Due to stagnant sea water, several diseases also surface. Children and the elderly, particularly suffer from diarrhea, itching and other types of skin ailments.”

If we take seriously the command to “Love Our Neighbor,” then doing what we can to consider the effect of our energy use, pollutants, and land use needs to be part of that effort. In fact, it may be the most important way that we can show that in fact, we do “Love.”

~Donna Gresh, for Green Team



## Labyrinth Update

Have you noticed the “Labyrinth Under Construction” sign at the back of the parking lot? We’ve made great progress this summer, transforming what was once an area covered with brush and roots into a beautiful grassy glade. Many thanks to a couple of work crews

and Dick Seymour, who planted, watered and mowed the grass all summer. We’ve been working with Lynn Brown, our labyrinth facilitator, and have laid out a temporary design.

**Come and be a part of the construction crew  
— we need your help!**

The next step is to dig and lay in the bricks to outline the labyrinth path. We are scheduling two workdays, **September 10 and 17, 9:00-11:00 am**. Bring a small spade or trowel and kneeling pad if you have one. Please come and help us on either one or both of these days and be a part of this wonderful community-wide project!



## Fall is a Great Time to Plant a Butterfly Garden

Some of you may have enjoyed the discussion and tour of the church's gardens, including the butterfly garden, tended by our "Gardeners of Eden" on July 10. Have you considered planting your own garden to nurture butterflies and other insects? Fall can be a great time to do some planting. No mud or frozen soil, and your plants can get established before winter arrives, letting you reap the benefits of your butterfly-attracting nectar the very next season.

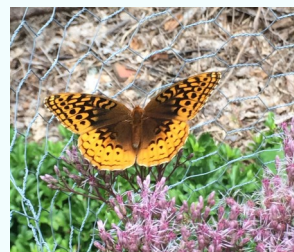
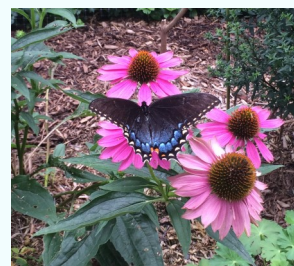
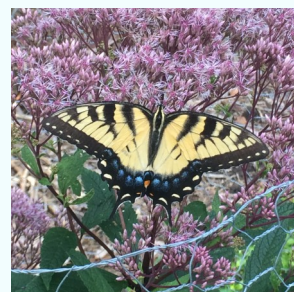
Why plant a butterfly garden? Butterflies are attracted to brightly colored, fragrant flowers, and they feed on nectar produced by the flowers. As the butterflies travel from one flower to another, they pollinate the plants, resulting in further development of plant species. Many plants rely on pollinators, such as butterflies, for reproduction. Butterflies tend to prefer native plants, and landscaping with native plants is a more sustainable practice since they are naturally adapted to the climate. The adult butterfly and the larval caterpillar are also good food sources for wildlife, such as birds and lizards.

Some things to consider: Try to grow both plants that caterpillars like to eat and plants that produce nectar for the adult butterflies. Some examples of "caterpillar food" are: parsley, dill, milkweed, and even many common weeds! Some examples of "butterfly food" (nectar) are: butterfly bush, giant hyssop, coneflower, bee balm, black-eyed susan, phlox, and coreopsis. You can find many of these plants in the church's butterfly garden.

Want to learn more? There are many informative sites on the web; you can start with these:

<http://www.butterflywebsite.com/butterflygardening.cfm>

<http://www.nybg.org/gardens/home-gardening/tips/butterfly-gardens.php>



## Operations Commission

While summer is the ideal time for most of us to sit back and take a break, the lull in Church activity and facility use actually present an ideal opportunity to take on projects and maintenance items. Here is a sampling of what has been happening:

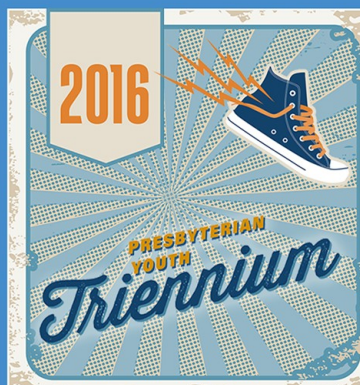
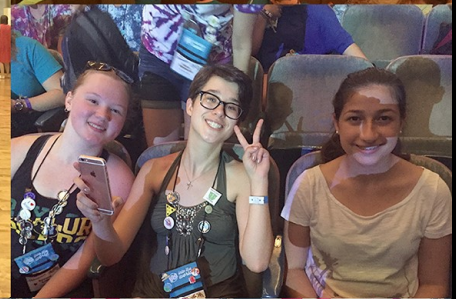
- Replacement of the tiled floor in Fellowship Hall
- Contractor estimates for renovations as recommended by the Space Use Audit Team
- Repainting of the pre-school and church office
- Repair of the outside office door frame
- Carpet cleaning
- Floor waxing
- Replacement of broken folding chairs
- Addition of moving wheels to a donated upright piano

Our to-do list is still a long one but we are just about keeping pace with the new items that keep surfacing. Jose has been doing much of the heavy lifting this summer and deserves a big thank-you for all his hard work. The Operations Commission did not meet in August but will resume monthly get-togethers on September 20th.

Dave Ramage, Operations Co-Chairman











Join us on September 25 for "Triennium Sunday" when we will get a full report from our teens and leaders that represented us at this "every three years" event in the life of PCUSA teens. A special Sunday will also be planned for our Atlanta Mission team report. Stay tuned! The "hands and feet" of our church were very busy this summer, connecting with those near and far and will continue doing so this fall as our youth group takes an overnight trip into the city (see the youth article on page 9 for more information).

We thank you for your continued support (speaking of which... don't forget about the Dean's Beans coffee fundraiser that takes place on the first Sunday of each month. See you on the 4th at coffee hour!).



Please note that the Bottles & Cans collection effort will be suspended until further notice. Approximately \$160 was collected (3200 bottles) during the last 6 months. Thank you again!

On August 28th, we commissioned three YAVs – Young Adult Volunteers. Ben Evans will serve in Washington DC, Savannah Fraser will be in New Orleans, LA, and Catherine Warren will travel to Peru. You can learn more about them, and follow their "adventures" at their blogs:

Ben Evans (Washington DC)

[www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/yav-new/ben-evans/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/yav-new/ben-evans/)

Savannah Fraser (New Orleans)

No blog available, yet, but we will keep you posted!

Catherine Warren (Peru)

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/yav-new/catherine-warren/>

To learn more about the YAV program, visit: [www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/)



## The Ministry of Our Deacons



### Transportation

Looking for a way to Volunteer? Why not help our transportation team assist those in need of a lift (to/from Worship, other church functions, miscellaneous needs). Contact Chuck Radke (962-4370) if you want to volunteer.



### Loaves & Fishes

We're looking for more loving hands to: cook & deliver a meal (entrée, side/salad, dessert); deliver a meal; or make and deliver a dessert. Contact Sue Nelson (494-6973) or Terri Froehlich (661-9222) for more information.



### School Supplies

This year we distributed 75 6-12th grade kits, 57 K-2nd grade kits and 45 3rd-5th grade kits. The few remaining kits will be given out at the September pantry(s).



### Food Pantry

September Item of the Month:

**Cereal**

Next Dates:

September 10, 24  
9 to 11am



### Blood Drive

From the Red Cross...

Thank you for hosting the blood drive on Saturday August 13. We were in an emergency blood need, and you and your church really had amazing and life saving results: 32 donors registered, 6 donors were deferred, 19 first time donors registered! 29 units collected (which includes the Power Reds) **87 lives potentially impacted!!!**

## Church School “Chalkboard”

Greetings from the Church School team! We hope everyone had a terrific summer. The first Sunday of Church School (September 18) is just around the corner, and we are so excited to see you all!

**This year’s Church School theme is  
“God is Counting on You.”**



**Spark Activate Faith** Our Pre-K through 4th grade students will be learning about Bible stories that feature numbers through the Spark Activate Faith rotation.

The first rotation will focus on the story of Noah’s Ark (Genesis 6–9) -- animals coming “two by two” and rain for 40 days and 40 nights!



**Connect** All 5th and 6th grade students are invited to join the Connect group, where they will study and discuss biblical text, as well as participate in fun activities.



**Re:form** For 7th grade and up, our thought-provoking Re:form group will continue to lay the foundation for faith formation.

**If you haven’t yet registered your child,  
it is not too late!**

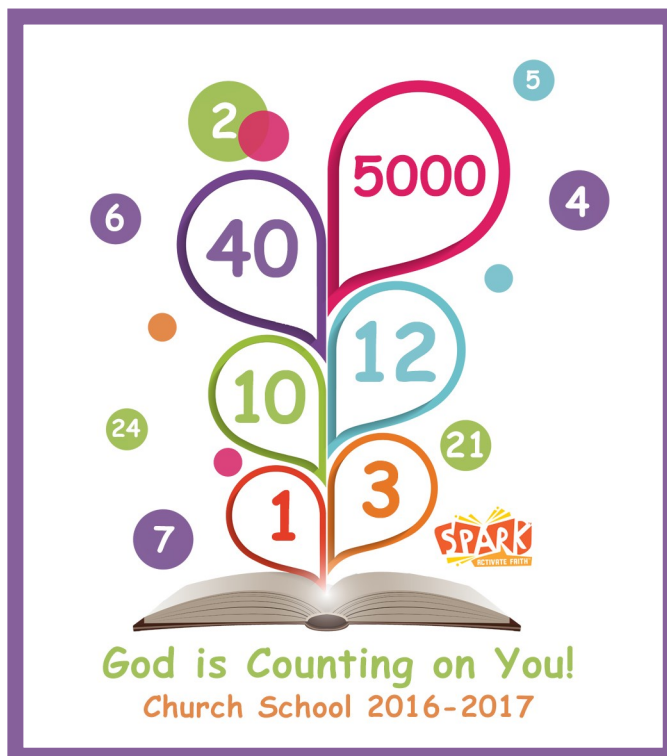


Scan the code to the left or log-on to MyFPCY via the church website and look for “available registrations”.

*If any parent does not want their child’s picture taken during Church School please sign Photo opt-out form and return it to us.*

Thank you to all the Church School staff members, new and returning, who have volunteered their time and talent to help create another successful Church School year in 2016-2017!

We still have opportunities for involvement (both teaching and non-teaching positions), so please reach out to Michele ([michann731@gmail.com](mailto:michann731@gmail.com)) or Jessica ([jessica.h.mayes@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.h.mayes@gmail.com)) if you would like to know more.



We also thank all the parents for the opportunity to work with your children. We appreciate that it is not always easy to make time in our busy schedules, but it is truly a blessing to see your children each week to explore our faith together. We encourage you to continue to build connections between home and church by discussing Church School themes, Bible stories, and activities at home with your children.

**We are looking forward this Church School year  
it is sure be filled with learning, faith and fun!**

Peace,  
Michele Mosca and Jessica Mayes  
Church School Superintendents

### **Church School Staff Orientation and Mandatory Child Safety Training**

**Sunday, September 11, 2016 at 9:00am  
at the church**

*Please be on time so that we can finish  
before the annual worship/picnic in the park!*

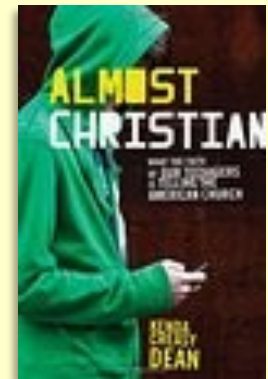


Dear Church Family,

I'm writing to invite you to join in a conversation group with me and our youth director Stephanie Hare this Fall.

At their baptism, we parents made a commitment to our children that we would help them grow in the life of faith. Our work is to help them join in the larger story of God's love in Jesus Christ and the Spirit's work in the world. At their best, our Sunday school and confirmation classes live out that commitment, but many voices and other stories seek to be of greater importance in our children's and youth's lives.

To understand how important our role as parents is in living our baptismal covenant, I would like for us to read together, ***Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers is Telling the American Church***. Don't let the title fool you. This isn't a book simply for parents of teenagers. This is a study and conversation about the kind of church we have built and will continue to build where children and youth can be passionate about their faith as the core to their lives.



I envision an eight-week gathering, weekly or every two weeks, where we would gather for 90 minutes to discuss a chapter and support one another in parenting our children and youth on their journey of faith.

At this point, I hope you will reply and share with me your interest in the group. Some possible meeting times could be: Sunday morning at 9:30, Sunday afternoon/evening during youth group or another time that works well for the group. If other times would work, please reply and share them. I'm hoping to start in late September or early October.

Thanks for your commitment to connecting our children and youth to God, one another and the world God loves as we live our baptismal commitment together.

Chip

## FPCY YOUTH



Wow! This has been an awesome summer! Thank you all who supported the FPCY team who attended the 2016 Youth Triennium - we had an awesome experience. We will tell everyone more about it in worship a little later in September, so please stay tuned. Also coming up in October will be our reflections on the summer mission trip to Atlanta, GA, but before we get to that, we have one more mission adventure to go on.

But first, **Youth Group meetings are starting up again on September 18!** Middle School from 4:30 - 6 pm, and High School from 6 - 7:30. Join us as we decorate our new Youth Room and make plans for the 2016-2017 school year. We will be exploring all the ways we are called to love our neighbors and have fun while doing it, including getting psyched for our...



### Youth Group Mission Trip — October 2-3 for 6th graders and up:

we are going leave FPCY at about 3:30 in the afternoon on Sunday, October 2nd to go down to the Broadway Presbyterian Church in Manhattan. We will help prepare food for their soup kitchen, sort clothes in their clothes closet, have an evening vespers service, stay overnight at the church, then get up on Monday to serve lunch to the clients of the soup kitchen and return back to FPCY in the late afternoon on Monday. We're going to cram a lot of service (and fun!) into 24 hours! Hope you can join us! We will have registration available through My FPCY very shortly, so stay tuned for an email to let you know when registration is open.

Any questions about our upcoming adventures? Email, call, text Steph Hare [youth@fpcyorktown.org](mailto:youth@fpcyorktown.org) or 914-826-1227. Looking forward to an amazing new year!



## Adult Education and Faith Formation

Why should the kids have all the fun, and get to go back to school? Have you ever wanted to engage in stimulating conversation, faithful fellowship and serious Bible study with a group of like-minded souls (who laugh often and heartily)? Here's your chance! We have several great opportunities for faith formation for adults too.

**Sunday Mornings @ 9:30 am** — Beginning September 18, we will focus on the book *Five Practices of Fruitful Living* by Robert Schnase. Join us as we discuss and put into practice these five keys to living and growing in faith. Books will be available for \$12.

**Women's Circle Bible Study – 1st Wednesday of the month @ 10:30 am** — Starting September 7, the Women's Circle will follow this year's Horizons Bible study, *Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes*. All women are welcome to attend one or more of these meetings. You don't have to attend every session to get a lot out of the study!

**Thursday Mornings @ 10:00 am** — Our Thursday morning faith reflection group will meet on September 8 to discuss possibilities and topics for this year's study. All are welcome!

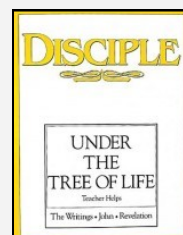
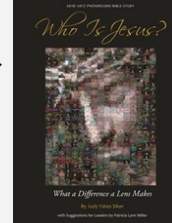
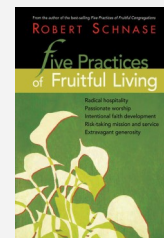
**Almost Christian Conversation Group** — This group will focus on Kenda Creasy Dean's book *Almost Christian: What the Faith of our Teenagers is Telling the American Church*. All parents, grandparents and any interested adults are welcome to join this conversation with our Chip Low and our youth director Stephanie Hare. (see page 9 for more details)

Disciple Bible Studies — This year, we offer 2 opportunities for in-depth Bible study:

**Disciple Fast Track** — Disciple Fast Track is a 24-week study that is described as "Bible study for Busy Lives." The group meets each week, for about 75 minutes. Twelve weeks are devoted to the Hebrew Bible, and 12 weeks to the New Testament. Participants will be asked to read each day, complete exercises in a workbook, and attend as many of the 24 sessions as you can. Each session includes a short video recap of the previous weeks' work and a brief discussion of the current week's readings.

**Disciple 4: Under the Tree of Life** — This Bible study is designed for those who have completed Disciple Fast Track and are looking for an in-depth study of specific books. This is a 32-week study of the Old Testament Writings, the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John, James, Jude, and finally, Revelation. From the Cokesbury website: "Participants will see the entire process of living toward final completion of rest and reward. A focus on the Psalms leads naturally to an emphasis on worship in this study. "

Interested in participating or perhaps co-leading? These groups are forming now. Each study will begin on a week day morning or evening around the week of September 18 or so. We are working on days/times now, so let Chip, Tami or Connie know of your interest and availability.

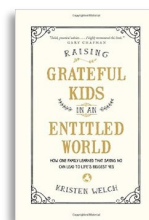


## Check it Out! New in the Church Library:

Writer and blogger Kristen Welch gives helpful strategies to parents in *Raising Grateful Kids in an Entitled World; how one family learned that saying "no" can lead to life's biggest "yes"* (248.8 WV). In today's fast-paced instant gratification culture, her message of selflessness and thankfulness is accompanied by practical advice and examples from her family. There are even appendices with a "cell phone contract between parent and child," recommended resources, and a discussion guide. (See also her web page and blog: [www.WeAreThatFamily.com](http://www.WeAreThatFamily.com).)

Another guide to life is *Carry On Warrior; the power of embracing your messy, beautiful life*, by Glennon Doyle Melton (248 M). A series of reflections, some of which are from her blog [www.Momastery.com](http://www.Momastery.com), they are hilarious &/or poignant reminders to women that they are not alone. As one reviewer wrote: "Glennon's like your favorite girlfriend: game to talk about anything, unafraid to take chances, and refreshingly honest about her past and present struggles."

Carol Jensen, Church Librarian





## Knitting Groups



**Prayer Shawl Group** will meet next on September 7th at 9:30 am and again on the 21st 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. Any questions please call Marianna Sherman at 914-737-8294 or Fran Schiel at 914-245-5396.

**The Knit Togethers** will meet on September 12 & 26 and October 24, 2016. We are looking forward to cooler weather as we knit hats and mittens, lap blankets, and baby blankets and sweaters 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: Noreen Radke (962-4370) or Lois Ostling (962-2809.)

## Noon Time Meal

All are invited to join our team of Noon time meal volunteers who prepare a monthly meal for the Peekskill Salvation Army. Clean veggies, dice ham, have fun!



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 will feed up to 50 people the following day.

Our next event will be on Tuesday, September 13th at 2:30 PM. Please feel free to come and share in what is always a lively and worthwhile endeavor.

For more information, contact Pat Prauda at 914-737-4674

## Lunch Bunch



Lunch Bunch will begin its fall season of Luncheons in the Fellowship Hall the 3rd Wednesday of the Month at Noon.

All are invited, so mark your calendars for September 21st and October 19th, November 16th and December 21st.

Watch for more details as the time approaches!

If you enjoy good food and meeting new friends or visiting with old ones, this is the place for you! -Pat and John Prauda

## Jan Peek Meal

Jan Peek House is a shelter for homeless men & women, run by Caring for the Homeless of Peekskill. On the 4th Saturday of each month we provide dinner at Jan Peek. It is rewarding to share food and conversation with the residents, and it is an important part of our congregation's ministry to the community. Gratefully, the months for this year are filled EXCEPT for Saturday, December 24th. Christmas Eve is very busy time for all, but if 2 or 3 Families would be interested in preparing/delivering a meal on this special day, please speak with me and we will work something out.

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

The 2017 Calendar is up in the Gathering Space and ready for anyone wishing to pick a date to participate in this important mission.



# Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, September 18th  
8:30am and 10:45am



## Usher Appreciation Luncheon

Sunday, October 23rd  
After the 10:45 AM Services

Watch for more details  
in the near future!

A catered lunch hosted by  
the Worship Design Commission.

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

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# The Disciple

**September 2016**

[www.FPCYorktown.org](http://www.FPCYorktown.org)

914-245-2186

[office@fpcyorktown.org](mailto:office@fpcyorktown.org)

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00

Co-Pastors

Rev. Chip Low

Rev. Tami Seidel



[office@fpcyorktown.org](mailto:office@fpcyorktown.org)



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## September

September				1	2	3
4 <b>Blessing of Our Hands</b> 9:30am Worship Services	5 <b>Labor Day</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	6  7:30pm Session	7 9:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle 7:00pm Green Team	8 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm YPP Concert 6:45pm Bells 8:00pm Choir	9	10 9am Food Pantry, Labyrinth Work Day
11 <b>Worship in the Park</b> 9:00am Sunday School teacher orientation & training 10:45am Worship in Downing Park followed by the Parish Picnic	12 10am Knit Togethers	13 <i>Primary Voting</i> 2:30pm Noontime Meal 7:30pm Worship	14 9am Stewardship	15  6:45pm Bells 8:00pm Choir	16	17 9:00am Labyrinth Work Day
18 <b>Blessing of the Backpacks</b> 8:30am Worship Service 9:30am Church School, Confirmation & Adult Ed 10:45am Worship Service 4:30pm MS Youth Group 6:00pm HS Youth Group	19 10am Knit Togethers	20 7:30pm Operations Mission	21 10:30am Prayer Shawl 12pm Lunch Bunch (all invited)	22 6:45pm Bells 8:00pm Choir	23	24 9am Food Pantry 6pm Jan Peek Meal
25 <b>Mission Trip Sunday</b> 8:30am Worship Service 9:30am Church School, Confirmation & Adult Ed 10:45am Worship Service	26 10am Knit Togethers	27 7:30pm Education Communications	28	29 6:45pm Bells 8:00pm Choir	30	