



# Connecting with God, One Another and the World

First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown

September 2017

## DATES TO NOTE:

**Sep 3**  
**Blessing of Our Hands and Tools**

**Sep 10**  
**Worship & Parish Picnic in Downing Park**

**Sep 17**  
**Blessing of the Backpacks, Confirmation, Sunday School & Adult Ed Begins**

**Sep 24**  
**Mission Trip Sunday**

# The Disciple

Watching my friend Joanne turn a lump of clay into everyday dishware is artful, and what she makes is art itself. As Tami and I sat in her studio during our annual trip to Canada and talked with her about life since we had last seen each other, Joanne ran a wire through large blocks of clay to break them down into the right amount. Then she'd throw a small chunk on her spinning wheel, wet her hands and begin the process of forming the clay to her desired shape. She'd lean in strong at first until the clay gave way to being shaped, then lessen her grip as the clay became moldable. Finally, her touch was light but firm as the clay became a cup or a bowl. Finally, she'd shave off some bits to give it more form, separate it from the wheel and set it aside to be fired. Watching her in action reminds me of the way God works with God's hands in a creative process to form all of creation in Genesis 2. It's a very hands-on, formative process.

Joanne's creation of pottery and God's formation of creation speak to our theme this fall: reform. That word is the basis of who we are as Christians and Presbyterians. God formed us in the beginning and continues to form us into the people God wants us to be. But, God doesn't simply form us individually. God also forms us as a church to be the body of Christ with a mission to the world. The motto of our Reformed tradition that dates back to the Reformation is "Ecclesia Reformata, Semper Reformanda" – the church reformed, always reforming. As the Presbyterian Mission Agency website says, "Our Reformed motto, rightly understood...does not bless either preservation for preservation's sake or change for change's sake." We are in the process of being formed and reformed "in the interest of preservation and restoration of more authentic faith and life—a church reformed and always to be re-formed according to the Word of God."

Reform is what Martin Luther had in mind 500 years ago this October when he nailed his 95 theses (or challenges) to the door of the Wittenberg church in Germany. He didn't set out to start a whole new, separate church, but rather to re-form the church he knew. The powers-that-be were not interested in change, however, and the Protestant Reformation was born. This fall we will study, preach on and celebrate this important moment in history as we reconnect with our Protestant tradition. We will look at the important questions that arose 500 years ago and the way re-formation continues to ask us important questions like:

- Who is God shaping us to be in our time for our community and world?



- How is what we are doing an expression of our faith rather than just good works?
- How does our mission as individuals and a church join with and reflect the mission of Christ in his life, death and resurrection?

Re-forming people answer these questions in every age of the church, and we have plenty of opportunities this fall to be formed in faith and learn how God wants to shape who we are, as individuals, families and church. Important questions lie before us in how we will respond to the issues facing our world. Important matters lie before us as we seek to pass on faith to our children and youth and help them know and trust God. Important questions lie before us about who God is calling us to be as Jesus' disciples and Christ's church in Yorktown and in this world God loves. Your formation matters to the faithfulness of the church. Our formation together matters to the faithfulness of our lives.

We've planned many formative opportunities this fall. The Disciple Bible Studies will kick off soon. Sunday School, Confirmation and Adult Education begins September 17. Blessing backpacks and animals. Walking the labyrinth. The work of the Ministry Development Team. Youth Group. Service opportunities like Noon Time Meal, Jan Peek, and Food Pantry. What in this newsletter could you get involved in to form your faith and life in the ways of God's grace and love, generosity and hope? Make formation a central priority of your life and family so that we may continue to live our faithfulness to God and for the world God loves.

Chp

## Eco-Theological Reflection

### Our Personal Responsibilities for the Environment

As most of you probably know, President Trump recently announced his intention to withdraw support for the Paris Climate Agreement. PC(USA) released a statement, including the following quote:

"The president's statement is a disappointment and represents a setback to our work as well as the work of other interfaith and ecumenical groups on the issue of the environment," said the Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II, stated clerk for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) "But we will not be deterred. We will continue to work toward building an environmentally safe world, creating jobs and a new economy based on clean air and building on a more environmentally safe nation and world."

The formal policy of the United States does not in any way interfere with our own personal efforts to live into our beliefs about our responsibilities to the planet. Your GreenTeam continues to reflect on how we can improve our practices, and communicate our ideas about how each of us can live more lightly on the earth.

Perhaps we can even use the current administration's policy as an impetus to do more on our own. After all, it is easy to think that someone else is "taking care" of what needs to be done. Isn't it rather that we should each do as much as we can personally, rather than expect the right thing to just happen?

Galatians 6:9

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."

Over the last two years of our GreenFaith certification there have been many events, articles, and reminders of what we personally, and we as a church, can do to help improve the environment. Just a few of these are:

- Consciously offering vegetarian options at our major events such as the progressive dinner and congregational brunches, and having completely vegetarian events, as we learn that reducing our meat consumption helps our environment
- Education on the many *local and organic farmers' markets and Community Supported Agriculture* options that are available around us
- We've learned about how we can responsibly *recycle our electronic waste*
- Our Operations commission has extensively *updated our building to use less electricity*; from replacing light fixtures to updating outdated appliances
- We had a *Food Waste weekend* where we learned about the impact of our buying and usage choices
- We joined the *Healing Our Sacred Sites Tour*, an educational event in Peekskill to learn about how damaged sites can be "resurrected"
- We've held gardening workshops and tours
- We've built an amazing *labyrinth* where we can engage with creation and experience personal peace and reflection
- We're members of *HRP Green*, a partnership of churches within the Hudson River Presbytery working together on "green" issues
- We've become an *EarthCare Congregation*, part of the Presbyterian Church (USA) network of congregations working together to fulfill PC(USA)'s environmental mission

And why do we do these things? Because God has made us stewards of the earth. The Psalmist tells us, in Psalm 115:16, "The highest heaven belongs to the Lord, but he gave the earth to all people."

Some of us in our Disciple Bible study groups have been reading the book of Revelation. In Revelation chapter 18 verse 11 we have yet another reason to care for the earth.

The nations were enraged, but your wrath came.  
 The time came for the dead to be judged.  
 The time came to reward your servants, the prophets and saints,  
 and those who fear your name, both small and great,  
 and to destroy those who destroy the earth."



Our faith tells us that the earth belongs to us and that we will be judged regarding how well we care for it.

And this letter from James (4:17) reminds us that "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin."

As you reflect on what it means to "do the right thing," what will you personally commit to? Prayerfully take responsibility for doing right by our planet.

Donna Gresh and Connie Knapp, co-leaders of the GreenTeam



## Deacons' Corner

Would that my eyes could see you, Lord,  
to meet you face to face;  
my journey here with joy be filled  
I would not need of faith.

If I could only see you,  
if my ears could only hear;  
I would have no need of doubt,  
I would have no need of fear.

Would that my ears could hear your, Lord,  
the calling of your voice;  
I would haste to do your bidding,  
In all your WILL rejoice.

When I listen very quietly  
the stirring of my heart,  
beckons me oft to go into this world  
and do my part.

I will hear the call of others,  
my brethren one and all,  
and when I serve them from my heart,  
I'll know I've heard your call.

C. Thorne

The summer quickly draws to a close and we find ourselves back in our "normal" routines – kids are back in school, there are buses to catch, lunches to make, meetings and choir rehearsal to attend, back to work and whether we realize it or not we are already starting to brace ourselves for Fall and Winter.

A quick look back to summer with all of its fun, family, barbecues and vacations will also give us a peek into all that our Deacons continued to do. The Food Pantry continued to operate every other Saturday and delivered upwards of 10,000 pounds of food each month. There were

times the Pantry was short staffed because of vacations but they managed with the help of other volunteers and got the job done. Please pick up a Food Pantry schedule in the Gathering Space and let one of our Deacons know if you are interested in helping. We even need people to pick up Panera

Bread the evening before Pantry Saturdays.

On August 26, 2017 the Deacons will host a **Blood Drive with the American Red Cross** in the Fellowship Hall. Judy Chessa coordinated this lifesaving mission and for 5 hours from 10:00AM to 3:00PM brave volunteers will arrive and give their own blood for patients in our community. The need for blood is a constant ongoing need. Only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for the people who desperately need blood. Judy reported that nationwide, someone somewhere needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds. Statistics show that almost all of us will need blood sometime in our lifetime.

I knew of a woman once who had always wanted to be a nurse. She was born in 1930 during the Great Depression and was the youngest daughter in a poor family. This woman's two older brothers were educated at universities but she was never given the opportunity to fulfill her dream. Her parents simply said that since she was a woman she did not need to

be educated since she would marry and have children. Well, she did marry and had children. What she did do, however, was give blood every year of her adult life as often as permitted until she was almost 80 years old. She stopped only after her two hip replacements when she was left with a paralyzed left foot. You too can give the "Gift of Life." Download the Red Cross Blood Donor App on the App Store, Google Play or text BLOODAPP to 90999. You can schedule appointments, get rewards and invite friends to join you on a life saving team.

August was also the month for **School Supplies** which were donated in age appropriate kits to children. Debbie Hager reported that there were over 60 kits dispersed for children in grades K-2 and over 75 kits dispersed to children in grades 3-5. That's amazing! And the school children were absolutely delighted. Thank you ALL for your donations, support and efforts to make this happen.

The Fall and Winter promise to be as busy and exciting. The Deacons continue with their **Diaper Ministry** supplying those in need each month. You can help by making donations of any amount to the Deacons and indicating "diapers" on your check or memo line of your online contribution. (If you are a BJs Member save the Berkley Jensen brand diaper coupons and give them to Pat Prauda or leave them in the office.)

There will be a "**Hat, Scarf and Mitten**" tree set up in Advent to accept all of your donations of purchased and hand made items. These will be delivered during Food Pantry days during December. Remember – we need your help. Check with any Deacon to see how you can give of your time, money and talents!

The Pantry always needs plastic grocery bags. You can bring them to Room 2 or just leave them in the basket with your donations .

As always, we praise God for the work we are able to do through all of your many efforts and we thank you for all of your caring and loving support. God Bless you.

~Carol E. Thorne-Gaetani for the Deacons

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

#### Dried Beans Pink or Black

Next Dates:  
Aug 26, Sep 9 & 23  
9 to 11am



The Mission Commission wishes to thank everyone who made this summer's mission trips possible through financial support, prayer, rides to and from the airport, the lending of cots and air mattresses, and all the ways that you have supported our teams.

Join us on September 24 for "Mission Trip Sunday" when we will get a full report from our 2017 Mission Trip Teams to Annapolis and the Dominican Republic. The "hands and feet" of our church were very busy this summer, connecting with those near and far. See the next page for a very special way that we plan on helping the school children in the DR. You can help!

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 3rd at coffee hour!).



Please note that the Bottles & Cans collection continues. Bring your refundable bottles & cans to the gathering space and we will redeem them for the Mission Commission. Thank you again!

On August 27th, we will commission three YAVs – Young Adult Volunteers. To learn more about the YAV program, visit: [www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav/)

Another new event from the Mission Commission is an Arts & Crafts fair that we will host in November. See page 9 for more details!



## A Few Images from Maryland and the Dominican Republic:



**For more photos and stories from our 2017 Mission Trip teams,  
be sure to be in church on September 24th!**

## School Uniforms Needed for the Dominican Republic

During our time in Caimonal and Derrumbadero, Dominican Republic, our mission team had the opportunity to meet, play with, and build relationships with many of the children in these two communities. Some are outgoing and feisty; some are shy and observant. Some would hop on our backs and ask for piggyback rides up and down the road, while some showered us with countless hugs and kisses. They are just like our kids here in the New York suburbs, with all their varied personalities and talents, hopes and dreams.

But one stark difference between the children in Westchester County, NY and those in rural Dominican Republic is that not all of these kids will go to school. In the family of Dominga, whose house our group expanded and repaired, only the youngest of her seven children has had the opportunity to attend primary school.

What stands in the way of children in DR receiving even the most basic level of education? For many, it comes down to one thing: a uniform. Uniforms are required for attendance at all public primary and secondary schools in the Dominican Republic and families must provide them. For families that struggle to pay even for food, there is no money for uniforms and education is not an option.

Just as our children and youth are heading back to school in the next couple of weeks, so too are children in the Dominican Republic. There are currently 40 children between the ages of 5 and 8 years old who cannot start school because they lack uniforms in the small communities of Caimonal and Derrumbadero. \$50 will outfit a student in rural Dominican Republic for a year of school with two shirts, two pairs of pants, shoes, a backpack, and notebooks. With your help, we can raise \$2,000 to get these kids one giant step closer to their educational goals and the closer to their dreams of a brighter future for themselves and their communities.

Our Mission Commission has started the ball rolling by earmarking some funds that will be sent to Bridges to Community specifically for these potential students in DR. Several members of our congregation have already committed to join this effort. **You can help get more children into classrooms!** Make checks payable to FPCY with "DR School Uniforms" in the memo line. To give online through the church website, click on "Giving", "Give Now" and select "Other Giving" then type in "DR School Uniforms" in the memo line. Thank you.



## Middle School & High School Youth Groups

**Save the Date for our Fall Kick-off:  
Sunday September 17**

**Strengthen Your Roots in Faith,  
Service, Fellowship & Fun.**



Thanks to all volunteers who made this year's VBS a success.  
Thanks to Tim Chin for the great pictures! Next Year, It's HERE!





## Sunday School “Chalkboard”

Greetings from the Sunday School team! The start of the 2017-2018 Sunday School year is just around the corner, and we are so excited to see you all!

**This year's Sunday School theme is  
Sing to the Lord a New Song**



**Spark Activate Faith** Our Pre-K through 4th grade students will be learning about songs and prayers in the Bible. From Moses and Miriam's song to celebrate the crossing of the Red Sea, to the Lord's Prayer, we'll learn how music and prayer intertwine in worship and in our lives, and learn lots of new songs and prayers along the way.



**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.

## Please register your child by Sep. 7th

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 Sunday School please sign Photo opt-out form and return it to us.

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

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** We still have opportunities for involvement (including co-teaching positions for Bible Skills & Games, Science and 5th-6th Grade Connect). To learn more, please reach out to Jessica: [jessica.h.mayes@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.h.mayes@gmail.com), Abby: [abigail.aldoory@gmail.com](mailto:abigail.aldoory@gmail.com) or Andy: [andrew.w.cross@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.w.cross@gmail.com)

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 Sunday School themes, Bible stories, and activities at home with your children.

**We are looking forward to this Sunday School year.  
It is sure to be filled with learning, faith and fun!**

Peace,  
Jessica Mayes, Abby & Andy Cross

**Coming this Fall — Save the Dates!**

**September 10th at 9:00am**  
2017-2018 Staff Orientation & Mandatory Child Safety Training  
(please be on time so that we can finish before the annual worship/picnic in the park)

**September 17th at 9:30**  
First Day of Sunday School

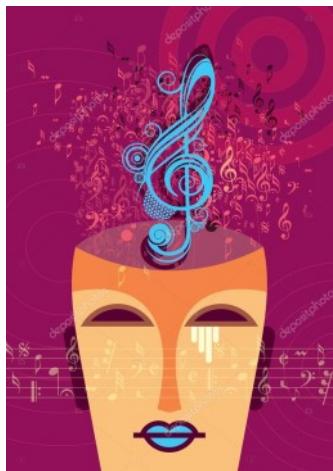
See you soon!  
Jessica Mayes, Abby & Andy Cross  
2017-2018 Sunday School Superintendents



# Blessing of the **Backpacks**



Sunday, September 17th  
8:30am and 10:45am



## **Did you know? Singing changes the brain!**

The science is in! Singing is really, really good for you and the most recent research suggests that group singing is the most exhilarating and transformative of all. Scientists have discovered that when you sing, the musical vibrations move

through you, altering your physical and emotional landscape. It takes something incredibly intimate, a sound that begins inside you, shares it with a roomful of people, and it comes back as something even more thrilling: harmony. According to Chorus America, 32.5 million adults sing in choirs, up by almost 10 million over the past six years. What researchers have discovered is that singing is like an infusion of the perfect tranquilizer, one that both soothes your nerves and elevates your spirits. Many studies find that singing relieves anxiety and contributes to quality of life. Group singing is cheaper than therapy, healthier than drinking, and more fun than working out. One writer states: "It is the one thing in life where feeling better is pretty much guaranteed. Even if you walked into rehearsal

exhausted and depressed, by the end of the night you'll walk out high as a kite on endorphins and good will." Neuroscience research finds that singing connects neural pathways and fires up the right temporal lobe of the brain, releasing endorphins, which make people healthier, happier, smarter and more creative. Not surprisingly, music has been dubbed the 'food of neuroscience' and provides a powerful model of how the brain can change in response to the environment. A recent study states that "music evolved as a tool of social living," and that the pleasure that comes from singing together is our evolutionary reward for coming together cooperatively, instead of hiding alone, every cave-dweller for him or herself. The research suggests that creating music together evolved as a tool of social living. Groups and tribes sang and danced together to build loyalty, transmit vital information and ward off enemies. Singing is a natural ability for humans.

**Come and do something healthy for yourself!  
Adult Choir rehearsals begin Thursday, September 7th at 8:00 p.m. in the Music/Board room.**

The choir sings each Sunday at the 10:45 worship from September through May. The choir is open to all who love to sing. Previous choral singing experience is not required but a basic ability to read music is a help. Singers are encouraged to participate as their schedules allow. A friendly core group of experienced singers welcomes newcomers and helps them feel secure.

**Sunday Morning Coffee Hour — Help Needed**  
If hospitality is one of your strengths, why not help out with our Coffee Hour Team?  
See Debbie Bernardini or Pat Prauda if you can help once in awhile!

## **Usher Appreciation Luncheon**

Sunday, October 22nd @ Noon  
in Fellowship Hall  
Entrée will be provided.  
Please bring a side or dessert to share.

RSVP to Karen Gerth  
Karensgerth@gmail.com  
Lunch will be followed  
by a brief usher meeting.

How did we do in 2016/2017?  
Suggestions and Q&A  
Planning for 2018



## First Presbyterian Church's Seventeenth Annual Concert Series Announced for 2017-2018

The FPC Concert Season will kick off its seventeenth season on Saturday, October 21st at 7:30 p.m. with **An Evening's Masquerade!** featuring elegant, fanciful, and fantastical music from the musical worlds of classical literature, tango, fairy tales and the movies. The concert, under the direction of Simona Frenkel will feature a professional chamber orchestra and the FPC concert choir.

In December, jazz singer and trombonist **Gerard Carelli and his quartet** will enliven the Christmas Season with a Jazz Concert on Saturday, December 9th at 7:30 p.m. (To learn more about the Corelli Collective, check out Gerard's website: [www.carellicollective.com](http://www.carellicollective.com) )



Become a Patron  
Scan to Make a Donation

Other concerts planned for the 2017-2018 Concert Series include a concert in March and our Annual Spring Concert on April 28th. Each concert is followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall to meet the artists and to enjoy wonderful desserts!



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 2017-2018 Concert series either by check or e/transfer. Please indicate your gift is for the "Concert Series"!

## Something New from the Mission Commission

### Save the Date — Saturday November 18

FPCY will be holding an Arts & Crafts Fair to support our various Mission projects.

Come and explore the vast range of artisans that the Hudson Valley has to offer (including our own Barbara & Gary Santagata). All of the vendors that you meet will be peer-reviewed and selected from the local area. Perfect for that one of a kind holiday gift — Clothing, jewelry, artwork, home décor, pottery, soaps, and tasty treats!



Are you a potential vendor or do you know of one?  
To learn more, help us spread the word (we have to start early)  
and to keep up-to-date on the vendors that will be coming,

**LIKE our page on Facebook and INVITE friends to like us, too!**



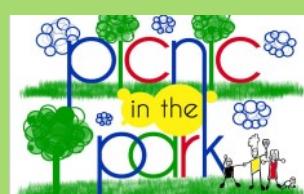
@FPCYArtsAndCraftsFair



**Thursday, September 7 at 6:30pm  
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!





**JOIN US FOR OUR PARISH PICNIC**  
**Sunday September 10, 2017**

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!**



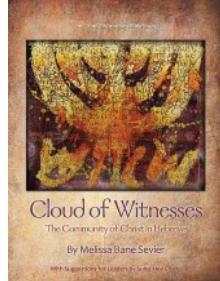
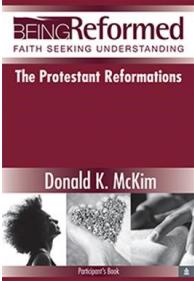
***Remembering the Reformation  
(and other faith formation opportunities for adults!)***

The Adult Ed Planning Team has been hard at work this summer planning our fall offerings.

We remind you that everyone is welcome! People sometimes think that they “don’t know enough about the Bible,” or “they don’t have much of a background in theology or religion” or “everyone knows so much, I’ll feel out of place.” I read a great definition of education: “an enlightening experience.”

So join us this fall and become enlightened!

Our **Sunday morning study** will be looking at the Reformation as we approach the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s nailing his theses on the door of the Wittenberg Cathedral. We’ll meet every Sunday from September 17 until October 29 at 9:30 AM in the library/lounge. Come and bring a friend! We’ll be using Donald McKim’s book [The Protestant Reformation](#). Books will be available for purchase at the first class meeting



The Women’s Circle will continue to meet on the first Wednesday morning of each month, from 10:30 until noon. The group will be led by Tami and will follow the Horizons curriculum, **Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews**. 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!

We haven’t forgotten the men! Chip will be hosting a **Men’s Breakfast** this year. The first breakfast will be held on Saturday, October 7. Details to follow.

**Our Thursday morning 10 - 11:30 AM**

class will be choosing a study from a few of the Great Courses, as we did last year. Join us at our first meeting on September 14th

We’ll be running a **Disciple: Fast Track Bible** study class this fall. Please let Chip, Connie or Tami know that you are interested. Current Disciple groups will be choosing a curriculum from the available Disciple studies.

Welcome back to class!

Connie Knapp  
for the Adult Ed planning team



Frauenkirche — a symbol of the Reformation, hewn in stone. It was completed in 1743 in Dresden, the capital of Saxony, Germany. Saxony was the first German state to introduce the Reformation. The design for the church captured the new spirit of the Protestant liturgy by placing the altar, pulpit, and baptismal font directly center in view of the entire congregation. The first organ concert in the Frauenkirche was given on December 1, 1736 by J.S. Bach, who is considered to be the most important composer of Protestant church music.

The Frauenkirche was completely destroyed in the bombing of Dresden at the end of WWII (with nearly 25,000 casualties) and lay in ruins for 40 years, a reminder of the horrors of war. The Luther statue was damaged, but survived. On February 13, 1983, the Frauenkirche became a symbol of the peace movement in Eastern Germany and a place for non-violent protest as young people gathered with candles in front of the ruins. An annual practice that continues today.

The Frauenkirche was rebuilt from 1994-2005. “Peace be with you” was the motto for the consecration of the reconstructed cathedral in 2005. This photo was taken by Lisa Flanagan in July of 2007.



**DISCIPLE**  
**FAST TRACK**  
BIBLE STUDY FOR BUSY LIVES

## Knitting Groups



**Prayer Shawl Group** will meet next on September 6th at 9:30 am and again on the 20th 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 11 & 25 and October 23, 2017. Thanks to Nance Thompson for delivering 17 baby sweaters & hat sets and 7 baby blankets to the Dominican Sisters Family Nursing Service in June. We are busy knitting hats, scarves and mittens for the Deacon's Mitten Tree in December—only three months away! As usual we continue working on lap blankets for local nursing homes. 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 Lois Ostling (962-2809.)

## Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch will begin a new season with an indoor "picnic" Wednesday, September 20th. We will serve grilled hot dogs and hamburgers. Please bring a side, salad or dessert to share with friends. Everything else will be supplied. Come join us bring a friend. Need a ride? Call the church office and we will try to help you out. Don't sit home alone, come enjoy good food, friends and conversation! -Pat and John Prauda

## 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!

**This year we will meet right here in our kitchen** 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 12th at 11:00 AM. Please feel free to come and share in what is always a lively and worthwhile endeavor.

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

## Jan Peek Meal

Thank you to Emily Monk, Mary Vezzuto, Robin Corpobongo and their families for preparing and serving dinner to the Jan Peek Clients on August 26th!

We are still in need for someone to volunteer to take September 23rd, November 25th and December 23rd.

If you are interested in helping out speak to Pat Prauda. You can team up with a group that you belong to or with another family or a group of friends!

Jan Peek is a Homeless Shelter for approximately 30 clients in Peekskill including veterans. Please wont you consider helping out?

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

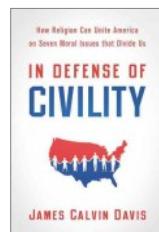
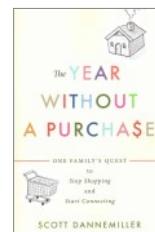


## New in the Church Library

Two new books to give you something to think about while you're enjoying the rest of the summer:

Writer and former missionary Scott Dannemiller has a true gift for storytelling. **The Year without a Purchase; one Family's Quest to Stop Shopping and Start**

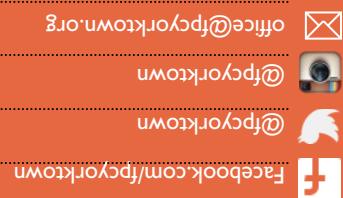
**Connecting** (241 D) is a chronicle of his family's year spent consuming less and connecting more. With a unique blend of humor, faith, and reflection, he helps the reader grasp the "why" behind our obsession with shopping and consuming things. This book will challenge you to think about your own life and the important concept of "want vs. need," but it is done in a very down to earth style that will keep you laughing along the way.



**In Defense of Civility; How Religion can Unite America on Seven Moral Issues that Divide Us** (201 D), by James Calvin Davis, could not be more timely. Although he has no easy answers to his premise, he underscores not merely the legitimacy, but also the potential benefits of recognizing religious perspectives in the public sphere. After introducing contemporary debates over religion, he reviews its complicated historical relationship with the American moral tradition. "When we open wide the doors of public moral discourse," he concludes, "when we extend civility and respect to all citizens and demand it from them as well, we lay the groundwork for an enriched public discourse that just might make some progress toward greater understanding on the issues that most divide us."

Carol Jensen, Church Librarian

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# The Disciple

September 2017

					1	2
3 10:00 Summer Worship	4 <i>Labor Day</i> Office Closed	5 7:30pm Session	6 9:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle 7:30pm Adult Ed Committee	7 6:30pm YPP Concert 6:45pm Adult Bells 8:00pm Choir	8	9 9am Food Pantry
10 9:30am Sunday School Teacher Training at the church <i>10:45am Worship &amp; Parish Picnic In Downing Park</i>	11 10:00am Knit Togethers	12 primary election 9:30am Disciple Bible Study 11am Noontime Meal Prep	13 9:00am Stewardship 7:00pm Disciple Bible Study	14 10:00am Adult Bible Study 6:45pm Adult Bells 8:00pm Choir	15	16
17 <i>Blessing of the Backpacks</i> 8:30am & 10:45am Worship 9:30am Sunday School, Adult Ed & Confirmation 12:00pm Deacons Youth Bells	18	19 9:30am Disciple Bible Study 7:30pm Mission & Operations	20 9:00am Stewardship 10:30am Prayer Shawl 12:00pm Lunch Bunch 7:00pm Disciple Bible Study	21 10:00am Adult Bible Study 6:45pm Adult Bells 8:00pm Choir	22	23 9am Food Pantry 6:00pm Jan Peek Meal
24 <i>Mission Trip Sunday</i> 8:30am & 10:45am Worship 9:30am Sunday School, Adult Ed & Confirmation 12:00pm Youth Bells	25 10:00am Knit Togethers	26 7:30pm Education/Communications	27 7:00pm Disciple Bible Study	28 10:00am Adult Bible Study 6:45pm Adult Bells 8:00pm Choir	29	30