



The DISCIPLE

September 2024

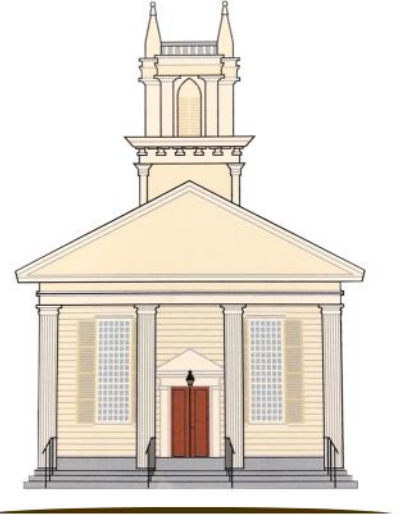
FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF
YORKTOWN

You Are Invited to...



Grow
Engage
Pray
Serve
Learn
Sing
Give
Share

with us!



DATES TO NOTE:

Sep 7

Women's
Birthday
Breakfast Club

Building Clean-up
Day

Sep 8

10:30am
In-Person
Worship
& Picnic

Sep 15

8:00 and 10:30am
Worship
*Blessing of the
Backpacks*

Faith

Formation Kickoff
Sunday School &
Adult Ed Classes
at 9:15am

Youth Group
Campfire 5:00pm

Oct 6

World
Communion
Sunday

Blessing of the
Animals
2pm

This summer, our church sent two groups of people on intentional journeys. A group of youth and adults traveled to Montreat, NC for the Montreat Youth Conference which focused on Planting Peace. Another group traveled to Spain to walk a portion of the Camino Frances for eight days from O'Cebreiro to Santiago. At the heart of each of those trips was an invitation, an invitation to grow. Our youth didn't just go to have a good time or hear about planting peace, as if there was just a set of information to gain. They were invited to open themselves up to the growing and becoming people who plant peace. The pilgrims who walked the Camino weren't simply tourists, going to see the sites and take a lot of pictures. They were invited to listen for the voice of the divine speaking as they walked in the footsteps of thousands of other pilgrims who have sought God's presence along this path for over 1,100 years. One of the many things we celebrate about both trips is all of the stories the participants came back to tell us about their experiences. They confirmed for us that they not only accepted the invitation of the trips but grew and changed because they did.

We hear a similar invitation in our ministry as we head into the fall. The invitation is a question really: how do we want to grow? Whether they realized it or not, this was the question underlying the trips to Montreat and to Spain. How do we want to grow? Sometimes we are aware of the question and other times we live into it and realize how we have changed in hindsight. Either way, how we want to grow is at the heart of being intentional people of faith and being an intentional community together.

Of course, we could let the many demands and other choices take over our lives and never actually engage the question or our faith or search for God. With the busy-ness of the fall and the return to work and school routines looming, it can be so easy to get caught up in the momentum and go along with whatever others say is important.

But one of the things we love about church is that we are a church that doesn't rest simply on being a church. We are a group of people who are in search of the sacred in our lives and in the world. We are a community who listens deeply for the movement of the Spirit in and among us. We are a church who

A NOTE FROM THE PASTORS...

responds to God's work here and now, asking what is next for us. At the heart of all of that is our commitment to listen for God's invitation and to respond in faithful ways. Our life together reminds me of a quote by Madeleine L'Engle: "I do not think that I will ever reach a stage when I will say, 'This is what I believe. Finished.' What I believe is alive...and open to growth."

So, how do we want to grow as the new program year kicks off? We don't wait to ask that question until we are already in the midst of everything else or until a new calendar year starts January 1st. We ask it now, as summer winds down, and we can reflect and be intentional about the choices we make moving forward into the fall. We ask it now, as part of our life together and our commitment to be a growing community for one another. We ask it now, as a central question of our participation in church and as people who want to know the presence of God more fully in our daily lives and embody God's good news in the world.

How do we want to grow and how do we want to encourage each other to grow and discover God's presence in the midst of their lives? Who could we invite to come and join us on this journey of faith into the future?

This newsletter is full of invitations and opportunities to grow in your faith and your relationship with God, one another, and the world. We hope you will join us as we discover God's presence with us through our ministry and mission together!

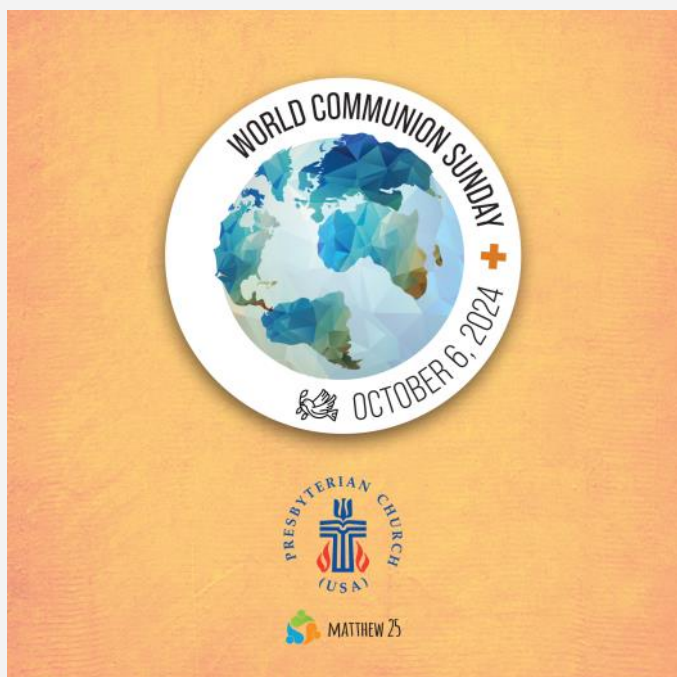
See you in church!
Chip & Tami



Chip



Tami





REHEARSALS BEGIN SEP 12

Rehearsals are back: Join Our Expanded Music Ministry

We are thrilled to announce that rehearsals have resumed, and our music ministry is more vibrant than ever! We've expanded our program to embrace a wider array of musical expressions, providing even more opportunities for you to share God's love through the beauty of music.

Just as music is a vast and varied art form, our ministry now includes a rotating schedule of diverse groups. Whether you're drawn to the unique sounds of boomwhackers, the rich harmonies of a chamber vocal ensemble, the energy of a drum circle, or the grandeur of an orchestra, there's a place for you here! These groups will be starting September 22nd. We invite you to stop by the music wing or check out our bulletin for more information. You'll find our rotating calendar, details on how you can get involved, and upcoming opportunities to participate in our expanding musical family.

Additionally, we're always looking for more volunteers to help with our concert series, manage our music library, and assist with ensemble coordination. If you have a passion for music and a heart for service, we'd love to have you join us. Let's make a joyful noise together and continue to spread God's love through the power of music. We look forward to seeing you at rehearsal!

In addition to the Sunday rehearsals, our flagship groups have started back up again! Starting September 12th

FPCY Bell Choir:	Thursdays	6:45-7:50pm
FPCY Choir:	Thursdays	8:00-9:30pm

PERSONNEL

Staff Spotlight!



Garrett Artman, FPCY's Director of Music Ministry, celebrated his 5th anniversary with FPCY in August!

5 things about Garrett you may or may not know...

1. He is left handed
2. He couldn't read music until college
3. He speaks basic mandarin
4. He has a red/green color deficiency
5. He took knitting class and can now knit...very poorly

We are so very grateful to Garrett for his continued dedication and service to our church. Please congratulate him when you see him!

Continued on page 4-5

CELEBRATING GARRETT



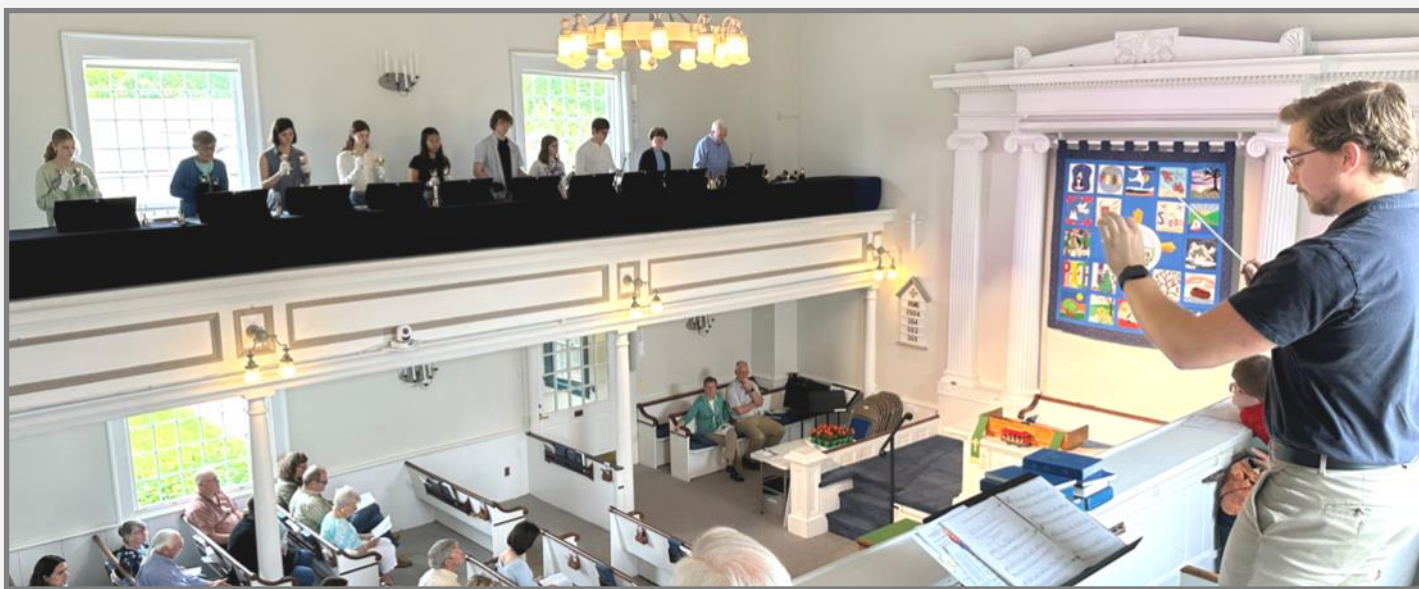
Five years ago, FPCY welcomed a dreamer and a visionary with an eye on the future into our ministry. Garrett Artman came to us after an extensive, year-long search to find the church's first-ever Director of Music Ministry. With goals to expand the styles of music included in worship, to weave music into every aspect of church life, and to offer the congregation opportunities to express their faith through music in any format that inspired them, the search team sorted through dozens of applications. During our search, Garrett impressed us first with his authenticity, his sense of humor, his sense of adventure, and (obviously) his talent. We did not understand then that what we experienced in his interview and audition session with the choir – an inspiring experience for more than thirty choristers – was just the tip of the iceberg.

And then... COVID! While we scrambled to create ways to worship together while apart, Garrett's other great talents came to light. In a few short weeks he became a music producer, learning how to use zoom to bring the choir together, collecting individual recordings from choir members and musicians and editing them to create pieces that could be shared in online worship services; giving those involved a sense of purpose in a time when purpose was what we needed most. Again, that was just the beginning.

In the past few years he has shown a dedication to our congregation as music-makers that we could never have dreamed of - offering anyone and everyone opportunities to contribute to the music of our church through the FPCY Orchestra, The "Him" Singers, The Boomwhackers, drum circles, the treble choir, the bell choirs, and solo performances in everything from guitar, to French horn, to the organ (which he fixes himself!). He has helped us reach out to the community through music, inviting local and not-so-local groups to share our space and join us in our love of music and most recently, launching our "Concerts On The Corner" concert series. Because of Garrett FPCY is a place where music lives not just on Sunday mornings, but every day of the week. We're amazed by his ability to find the perfect music to accompany worship services, especially when *he writes it himself!* We're blessed and grateful to have him among us.



CELEBRATING GARRETT



Fantastic piano skills, including improvisation; excellent accompanist – Carol Jensen

It has been such a pleasure and a blessing to be a choir member these past 5 years under the direction of Garrett — our wonderful and talented Director of Music Ministry, and all the many gifts that he has shared with our choir and our church family. I appreciate most how he has embraced the "Ministry" part of his job title. Garrett is a treasure. – Debbie Amorese

Garrett once said to me: "Erik, it's not just about the performance." I was waxing poetic to him about the perfection (clarity, balance, precision, etc.) of various George Szell Cleveland Orchestra recordings. Garrett's point was there are other important aspects to the combo music + people -- fellowship, fun, being part of a group, and so on. – Erick Jensen



It has been a joy to participate in various aspects of music ministry with Garrett over the past 5 years. His creativity and ability to adapt never cease to amaze, including arranging pieces of music for the FPCY "orchestra" to accommodate an odd assortment of instruments for an intergenerational group, and preparing performances by the drum circle and Boom Whackers, and creating a virtual choir during the Covid shutdown. What a gift he is to us all. – Ann Timmons

We do well singing of our joy of being one in the Lord with Garrett and each other, and I've provided him some ancestry records to claim a genetic binding for us as well. I lack the talent but am not short of the love of music that is abundant among many Artmans I've met. So, I do address Garrett as cousin! – Dick Mills

I am enjoying worship singing so much more, as I am singing from my heart and getting lost in a good way when I hear the interesting improvised accompaniments. May you be rejuvenated and blessed with the Spirit's fresh air that you share with us. I can't wait to see what you come up with next! – Heidi Haring





SCHOOL'S IN SESSION: CAN YOU HEAR THE SCHOOL BELLS?

As the co-chairs of the Faith Formation Commission, it is our absolute pleasure to be participating in the kick-off of our annual campaign of joy as we prepare for the start of Sunday School on September 15th!

There is a lot of fun and planning behind the scenes to enable Sunday School to happen. When we celebrate the sacrament of Baptism, we, the congregation of this church, promise to support the faith formation of each baptized child. Our Sunday School is a part of our living out of that promise. As a part of this year's kick-off of this joyful fulfillment of promise, we want to share with you excerpts from stories from members of our congregation who were answering one of these questions: "Why I'm a Sunday School teacher" or "Why does my child go to Sunday School."

Jean Post-Winget: When our three children were growing up, I was very actively engaged in Sunday School, both teaching and in various leadership roles. I loved it. But, once our children were all Sunday School "graduates", I accepted my own diploma and for the next decades, I considered myself to have completed my duty as I passed the torch to others...Then, three years ago in August, the church was preparing to reopen as an in-person Sunday School following the long COVID shutdown. I found myself agreeing to put my professional background to work in developing the teacher training for the September reopening. During that training meeting, I was introduced to some wonderful, dedicated people whose spirit and enthusiasm were infectious...So, I rather reluctantly agreed to volunteer ..., but said, this is short-term, and I don't want to teach. And now three years later, I'm still there and I do teach. ... I am a very blessed member of a happy and supportive little community that includes wonderfully lovable, joyful children and amazing youth and a very caring group of adults. And, my life has been truly enriched!

Suzy Rishel: About 20 years ago, when my sons were young, my family joined this church. We were encouraged to enroll the boys in Sunday school. Shortly after they started, I was asked to be a Shepherd. This was the easiest job available - no teaching, just walking the kids to their classroom and watching the lesson.... As the years went by, I got more involved - always reluctantly, though. I was terrified to take on any responsibilities.... But for some reason I kept saying yes and found myself pleasantly surprised that I CAN do these things. It's not just about the actual teaching part of it. It's the people - the amazing kids and the other teachers. At first I was motivated by wanting my own children to learn about building their faith, then it was setting a good example about volunteering. Now it's because I am encouraging many children to build their faith and recognizing those teachers who did this for my kids - And because I love doing it.

Alice Chin: I've volunteered for many opportunities to serve within this great church, whether they be deacon, elder, or Sunday School teacher, because I believe our faith is not just something we talk about -- it's something we live out, day by day. We shouldn't just 'talk the talk', we need to 'walk the walk'! Serving as a Sunday School teacher both helped me learn more about God and offered me the privilege of sharing this knowledge with the children.

We live in a world overflowing with information and choices, Tim and I prioritized church because we believe it is important to give our children a strong foundation in faith. We want them to have an unwavering sense that they are deeply loved, and equip them with the tools they need to face life's challenges with resilience, strength and fortitude, grounded in God's love and teachings. We hope that reading these excerpts gives you an idea of ways that you might support our children and our faith formation efforts.

Connie Knapp and Jean Post-Winget, co-chairs, Faith Formation



Faith Formation classes start
September 15th
9:15am-10:15am



Register
Today!



Sunday School Kickoff

Sunday Morning Faith Formation for grades PreK-12
There's something for everyone!



Sparkle
(PreK-K)



Shine
(grades 1-4)



Connect
(grades 5-6)



FaithX
(grades 7-8)



Fathom
(grades 9-12)

So that we can make sure to have the resources on hand to start the year well,
Register Today—<https://tinyurl.com/FPCY-SS24>



*Blessing
of the
Backpacks*

Sunday, September 15th
(8:00 & 10:30 am)

Here's what's coming up:
Put these dates on your family's calendar!

September 8 — Church picnic

**September 15 — Blessing of the Backpacks
& Faith Formation Kick-Off**

We return to our two service schedule with worship at 8 am (in-person) and 10:30 (in-person and online) with Sunday School and Faith Formation for all ages at 9:15 am. Students of all ages are invited to bring their schoolbags to either service as we bless our students and their new year of learning and growing.

September 15—Youth Group Kickoff Campfire (details next page)

October 6 — Blessing of the Animals, 2pm

LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION—YOUTH GROUP



Lots of things come to mind when we think about fall. Pumpkin spice, corn, harvest, football, changing and falling of leaves, rain, umbrellas, haystacks, scarecrows, pecan pie, apple pie, orchards, corn maze, gourds, ghosts, costumes, candy apples, kettle corn, festivals, school (you know you miss it,) and Youth Group!!!

We hope you all had a wonderful Summer. Let's create a spark from the embers we left at the end of last year and have a **Kickoff Camp Fire!! - Sunday, September 15th, 2023 5-7pm**

- * Let's have some Hot Dogs, roasted Marshmallows, S'mores, and other campfire foods/snacks
- * Let's talk about our Summer and the coming school year!

Can't wait to see everyone's smiling faces again. Meet out back of the church by the labyrinth. Oh and bring chairs if you have them.

If you have any questions, ideas, or random thoughts please don't hesitate to contact Kaycee (Kaycee@fpcyorktown.org) or Tami (Tami@fpcyorktown.org)

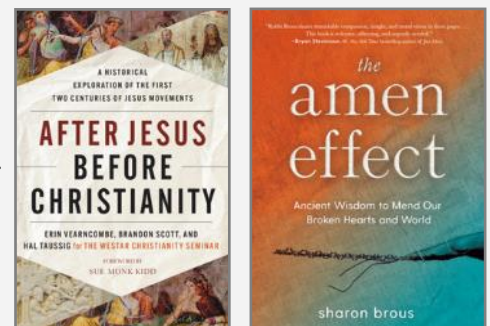


NEW IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

I've sometimes felt there was a gap in the history of Christianity between the resurrection of Jesus and the beginning of organized Christian churches about 200 years later. Now I know there was a great deal going on. **After Jesus; before Christianity, by Erin Verncombe and others** (232 V) is "A historical exploration of the first two centuries of Jesus movements." The authors begin with the death of Jesus and look forward, describing groups that resisted the Roman empire, lived in experimental family and social groups, and relied on oral tradition to preserve Biblical and historical events.

Rabbi Sharon Brous teaches us how to hope on every page of **The Amen Effect; Ancient wisdom to mend our broken hearts and world.** (155.67 B) Through her warmth and wit, she charts a path through the darkness, giving readers a sense of hope, healing, and human connection. With original insights and practical tools, the book translates foundational ideas into simple practices, offering a blueprint for a more meaningful life and a more connected and caring world.

Carol Jensen, Church Librarian





A Note From Our CRE

You might have noticed my name at the back of the bulletin: “Connie Knapp, CRE for Educational Ministries” and you may have wondered what I have been doing. Shortly after my commissioning on October 22 I had rotator cuff surgery and was basically “out of commission” (no pun intended) for the next six months. Now that I’m back, I’ll be writing a short column in each issue of *The Disciple*. I thought I’d start by explaining the Presbytery’s CRE program.

A CRE, Commissioned Ruling Elder, is a Ruling Elder who has been through an educational program and has been certified ready to receive a commission to “limited pastoral service” by the CRE Committee for a three-year term, renewable at the end of the term. The Book of Order leaves the preparation and training of the CRE in the hands of the Presbytery, requiring that the training include boundary training, sexual misconduct training, and child abuse prevention training, recertified every three years. My preparation has included all of these.

The Hudson River Presbytery requires coursework in the following areas:

- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Reformed Theology
- Reformed Worship and the Sacraments
- Preaching
- Pastoral Care
- Educational Ministry of the Church
- Presbyterian Polity

I began taking courses online at Dubuque Theological Seminary in 2013 and completed the coursework in 2019. I was elected as Moderator-Elect of the Hudson River Presbytery that year and served first as Moderator-Elect, then as Moderator (2020), and finally as Moderator of Council (2021).

Usually, a CRE candidate completes fieldwork under the supervision of a Minister of Word and Sacrament and is commissioned to a church other than her home church. I was encouraged to request waivers based on my service to the Presbytery. Both of my waiver requests were granted and in October 2023 I was commissioned to Educational Ministries here at Yorktown, serving ten volunteer hours a week in this commission.

What will I do as a CRE here? I will continue my work with Faith4Life and our Cross Gen ministry, and preach and lead worship four to six times a year. I also plan to explore other opportunities for intergenerational ministry and help organize events and workshops focused on second-half-of-life issues and concerns.

I’ll use this column to share what I’m learning and doing—feel free to stop me during church, or to email me at Connie@fpcyorktown.org with any questions, suggestions or just to chat!





Fall Faith Studies

**I do not think I will ever reach a point when I will say,
“This is what I believe. Finished.”
What I believe is alive...and open to growth.**

~ Madeleine L’Engle

As prolific American author and Christian Madeleine L’Engle noted, grown-ups need to grow in their faith too! We hope you will join us this fall for any of our Faith4Life learning opportunities!

Sunday Mornings @ 9:15 am (starting September 15)

The Bible for Grown-Ups

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:15 in the Library (in-person and Zoom), as we watch videos with Josh Scott (author of Bible Stories for Grown-Ups and Context: Putting the Bible in its Place) and look at scripture through new eyes for new insights on living our faith in the world. See an introductory video here: <https://tinyurl.com/FPCY-91524>

Sunday Evenings @ 7:00 pm (starting October 6)

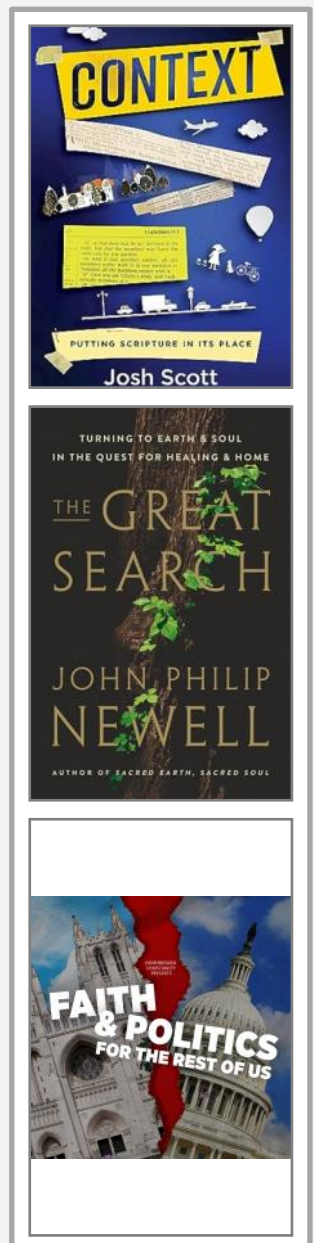
The Great Search: Turning to Earth & Soul in the Quest for Healing & Home by John Philip Newell

Join us on Sunday evenings in the Library (in-person and Zoom) as we read and discuss Newell’s book in which he invites us on perhaps the greatest spiritual quest facing our time – reconnecting with the Sacred by reconnecting with our true selves and the Earth. He writes, “In our Great Search of today, we are searching for what will bring healing, not only for ourselves, whether as individuals or nations or races, but for all people and for every species. And it is for all things that we are seeking a new sense of home address, not only physically but spiritually. Books are available in the Office for a suggested donation of \$20.

Tuesday Mornings at 10:00 am and Thursday Mornings at 10:30 am (starting September 3 & 5)

The Good News of Faith & Politics

In light of a fraught election season, what does our faith have to do with our politics and vice versa? Join us as we look at the history of the relationship between faith and politics and how Christians can reframe politics in light of God and the Gospel. We will be watching, reading and discussing videos/mini-lectures from “Faith & Politics for the Rest of Us” by Tripp Fuller, Diana Butler Bass and Tim Whitaker and Ross Kane’s book The Good News of Church Politics. Books are available in the Office for \$15.



LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION—FOR ADULTS

Wednesday Evenings at 7:30 pm (Informational Meeting – September 18, Studies start October 2)

We would like to offer 2 different options on Wednesday evenings: **Disciple Bible Study** and possibly **The Good News of Faith & Politics** or another Bible study option for those who have already completed Disciple.

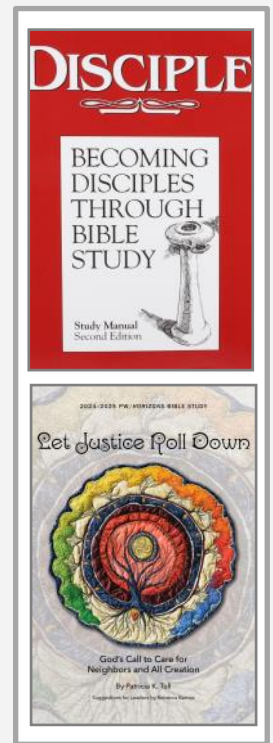
About Disciple: *Have you always wanted to read the Bible but didn't know where to start? Would you like scripture to come alive for you? Would you like to get together with other folks for great conversation and fellowship?*

Disciple Fast Track: Becoming Disciples through Bible Study is a 24-week study that is described as “Bible study for Busy Lives.” The group meets weekly; 12 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.

Women’s Circle Bible Study – 1st Wednesday/month at 10:30 am (in-person or Zoom)

Our study this year is called **Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation** by pastor and Old Testament professor Patricia Tull, with artwork by textile artist Lorraine Roy (attention quilters!). Books are available in the Office for a suggested donation of \$10.

Questions? Contact Connie@fpcyorktown.org, Tami@fpcyorktown.org or Chip@fpcyorktown.org.



HISTORY CORNER – FPCY IN THE 1830's

The First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown was organized in 1730 by the initial settlers of the area — people who are remembered in the names of our streets and localities. The first meeting house was built in 1738, and was burned by the British during the American Revolution. The second building was constructed in 1783, and was replaced by the current sanctuary in 1838.

The sixth pastor of FPCY was the Rev. Robert G. Thompson, installed as pastor of this church on May 18th 1836. “When I became pastor of the church,” he writes, “the old house of worship was still standing. It was an exceedingly old and unsightly object. Just enough yellow ochre was visible to show that it had been painted once. The architecture, pulpit, and seats were all in the old New England style without paint and of the most common workmanship and material. It was felt that a new and more modern building was a necessity to the comfort and prosperity of the congregation. The old one had answered its day, and though hallowed in the memory of the old members, it must now give way to another more in accordance with modern ideas of taste and convenience.” The work was undertaken in the spring of 1839, and the new edifice was dedicated to the worship of God on January 9th, 1840. (picture circa 1910)



Imagine sitting in the pews with no cushions today — those old sermons lasted a long time!

Submitted by Dick Hunter

Church Picnic



Join us for the church picnic on
Sunday, September 8th, following the
single worship service at 10:30am.

Annual Church Picnic—Please bring a side dish or dessert to share--we'll provide the main dishes and drinks. Can you help with set up or clean up? Please let Connie@fpcyorktown.org know.

Calling all Grillers!

We'd like to grill hot dogs, hamburgers and veggie burgers for the church picnic.

- ⇒ Do you have a portable grill that you'd be willing to cook some food on?
- ⇒ Do you have a portable grill that you'd be willing to let someone else cook food on?
- ⇒ Would you be willing to come check out the church's gas grill? No one remembers when it was used last, if it even works, or if it has any gas (probably not).

If you can answer "yes" to any of these questions, let Connie know (connie@fpcyorktown.org) so we can plan a first-rate picnic!

Women's Birthday Breakfast Club



Let's get to know
each other better
and share in the joy
of birthday blessings!

Attention All Women

Join us on the 1st Saturday of each month at 8:00am for a pot luck lunch where we will celebrate the women celebrating birthdays in that month.

Men's Monthly Breakfast

September 21 at 8:00am

Join Chip for food, fellowship & faith
in the Fellowship Hall



Attention All Men

Join us on the 3rd Saturday of each month as we cook breakfast in our wonderful new church kitchen and enjoy a time of fellowship with one another.

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTIONS

You are cordially invited to attend FPCY New Member Classes!

Sundays October 6, 13, 20, 27 & Nov. 3 @ 9:15 AM
In the conference room next to the office

Everyone is invited and welcome to attend...

Whether you are already a member or a prospective member, we invite you to come; learn about the government and history of our church; discuss our beliefs, our values; share stories of our backgrounds, and best of all, create friendships with others who attend our church and are considering joining in our mission. As an "older" member attending the classes, I am challenged every year to revisit myself through new relationships. The classes revitalize my connection to the church. And I always learn something new, not only about the church, but about myself: Why do I come to church? What keeps me coming? What do I get out of church? What do I put in? The classes are exploratory experiences.



They are a fun, informative, fellowship opportunity! So, please consider joining us!
Any Questions, please ask Chip, Tami, Jane, Connie, Gloria or call Lisa in the church office @ 914-245-2186.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



Let's Talk about our Transportation Ministry

Our Church, through its Board of Deacons, offers a referral source for transportation services for our congregation.

Requests for transportation are made by individuals, referrals from the pastors, or via the various ministries of the Board of Deacons.

When we receive a request for transportation, we have a list of willing volunteers who will provide rides to medical appointments, to and from Church for worship and other church events. A sign-up genius has also been created to facilitate volunteering: <https://tinyurl.com/FPCY-drive>

Also, rides are sometimes organized without the need for Deacon intervention and can be arranged on an informal, independent basis.

Please note that volunteers who help with transportation are considered friends. In consulting the church's insurance company, the church is not liable for accidents of any nature or incidents "between friends."

However, to ensure the safety of all, the Board of Deacons has developed a thoughtful screening device.

The Deacon coordinating the transportation ministry will screen each request in order to identify any physical disability that may need to be noted. If so, the information is shared with the individual who will be providing the transportation.

We thank all of our volunteers who assist in this ministry, and we always welcome others who would be willing to participate in this important ministry.

John M Winget, Co-Moderator of the Board of Deacons.
Coordinator of the Transportation Ministry
jwingetpt@yahoo.com (914) 329-9978 Text/Phone





Creative Fellowship Groups

Our Creative Fellowship Groups are always busy. Learn more about what they do and consider joining in their generous efforts!

Knit Together



We recently received a very generous and unexpected cash gift from a church member to "keep on knitting." We purchased yarn and continue to joyfully knit baby blankets and lap blankets to give to others in the community. We are very thankful for this support. I silently thank her each time I pick up her yarn and my needles. She has added much joy and encouragement to our knitting efforts.

Our next meetings are September 9 & 23, and October 14 & 28.

All knitters are welcomed to join us as we knit for others in the community. Yarn is available. For information contact Norean Radke, 914-962-4370.

Our **Prayer Shawl Ministry** is led by Marianna Sherman. Prayer Shawls are given to church members and friends from suggestions by our pastors and others. The Prayer Shawl Ministry began in 1998 in North Carolina by two women who began knitting/crocheting shawls to give to breast cancer patients and new mothers. From that simple beginning, this ministry has expanded across the country and the globe. In 2006, Marianna Sherman began this ministry in our church. Presently there are six knitters in the group. Prayer shawls are given for a variety of reasons. For example, recipients of the prayer shawls can include those who are ill, in the hospital, experienced a death in the family, baptisms, or a joy or accomplishment. The group also knits hats and scarves for our Food Pantry clients for Christmas. The shawls are a reminder of the support and comfort which is wished for all. The group meets on the second and fourth Mondays each month in the church library. All who knit/crochet are welcome.



The newest addition to our Creative Fellowship Groups is **Sweet Dreams**.

Sweet Dreams is a ministry of our church that makes baby quilts for infant baptisms. If you have questions or want to join us in that effort please contact Margaret Harrison at Harrison3505@gmail.com.



Bereavement Support

FPCY Bereavement Group

A bereavement group is meeting at the church twice a month on Mondays at 10 am.

Sep 9
Sep 23

Oct 7
Oct 21

As we experience grief, at all stages, it is important to talk to people about our loss and pain. In this group, it is not necessary to hide or deny our feelings. We can learn to be grateful for those with the compassion and openness to hear our pain and stay with us--as we all travel this journey together.

Facilitating the group is be Judy Chessa. Please contact Judy (914-552-2509) to register or if you have any questions.

God heals the broken-hearted,
and binds up their wounds. ~Psalm 147:3



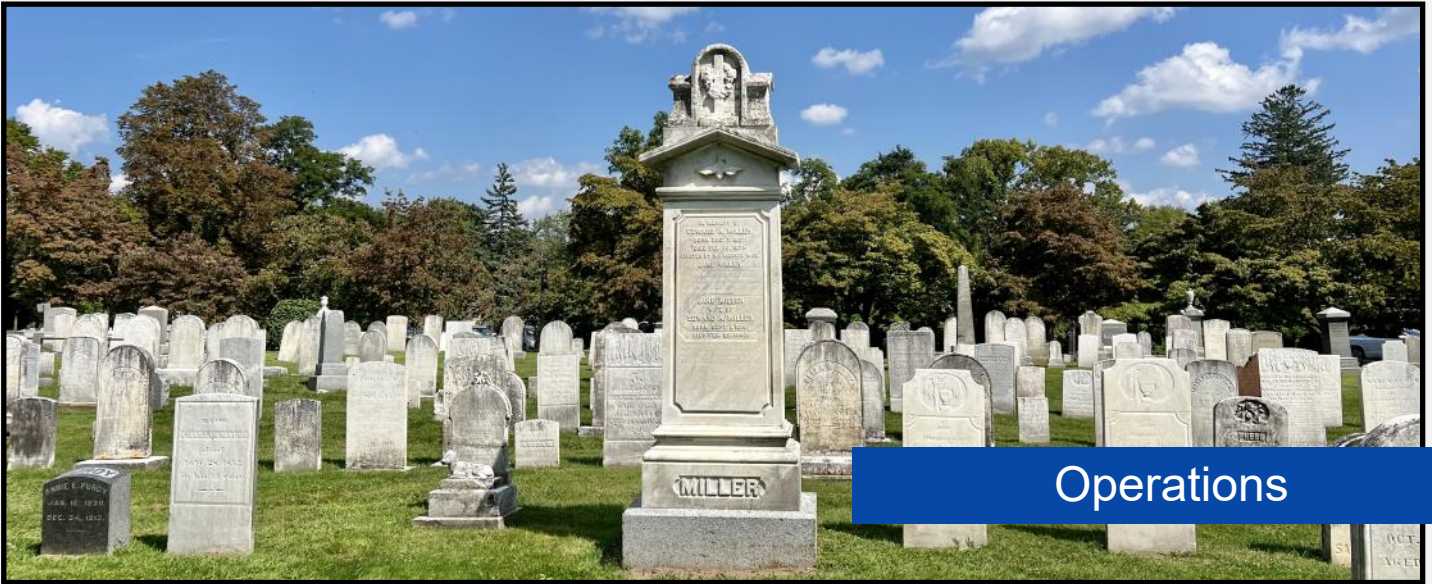
FPCY
Bereavement
Group



Did you know that we have a very active PRAYER MINISTRY?

We get many requests from the church prayer request e-mail address prayer@fpcyorktown.org through our pastors, through our various church groups and sometimes from non-members! Just recently we learned of a neighbor who walks the labyrinth and hangs prayer ribbons often to remember a loved one as it is closer than the family cemetery!

A prayer ribbon is hung for each request. Ribbons are left in the breeze behind the church until the requests are "gone" with the wind, etc. This past year 100+ ribbons were hung.



Operations

Summer Project Recap

While our building was full of the sounds of children at the summer music camp over the last few months, Operations & Campaign projects continued. Here are a few highlights:

- Church Yard Cemetery Headstone Cleaning project was completed—475 stones power washed and 84 markers cleaned over 2 years thanks to Dick Seymour, Jerry Amato and John Decker.
- Tree & shrub were trimmed around the property.
- Broken tiles were repaired in Fellowship Hall and at the bottom of the ramp near the office hallway.
- Floors throughout the building were cleaned and waxed.
- Carpets will be shampooed in early September.
- Split Rail Fence repaired.

Many thanks for Dick, Jerry and Bud for taking the lead on many of these projects.



Cleaning is Caring

Join us for the End of Summer Inside Spruce-Up

Saturday, September 7, 9:30 am—11:00 am

Snacks and beverages provided

Many hands make light work!



Tent Take Down — Sep 20
Helpers Needed
Contact Vinny if you can help.
We'll start at 5pm.



Mission Opportunities

From the Mission Commission

We are seeking volunteers to prepare dinner for Jan Peek residents on October 26th, November 23rd, & December 28th.

If you've never done it before, please consider giving it a try. Working with two other families (at least one of which will have prior experience) to make a dinner for 35-40 grateful people can be a very rewarding experience -- especially when you use our church kitchen for preparation. If you are interested and available, please either sign up on Signup Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e45aea62fa1fb6-janpeek1#/> or contact Jeff Kephart at jeffkephart@gmail.com.



Thank you very much to all of those who have volunteered for Jan Peek this year. This includes:

- January 27: Kaycee Perry (coordinator) and the FPCY youth group
- February 24: Christine Lazarus (coordinator) with Sheri and Mark Gausepohl and Bill and Dana Treacy
- March 23: Barb Wanamaker (coordinator) with the Chin, Treacy and Vlad families
- April 27: Nance Thompson (coordinator), Danise Talbot, Nicole Decintio and friend Koreen
- May 25: Abby Cross (coordinator) and Ms. Lorna's karate class (including Jamie and Claire)
- June 22: Liza Placido (coordinator) and her co-worker Mercedes Eagleson along with her two children Gisele and Leo
- July 27: Jen & Patrick Burns (coordinators) with Emily Monk and Rick Vesperman
- August 24: Christine Lazarus (coordinator) with Lynn Edling and Heidi Haring
and thanks to the Coccodrilli family (Gloria, Bud, Amy and Beth) for volunteering for the next date, September 28.

Your service to our community is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,
Jeff Kephart, Mission Commission co-chair

Garden of Hope

It has been a slow start, but the garden has been mostly secured and planted. The traps have shown us that in addition to rabbits, we also compete with raccoons, groundhogs, rats and skunks! The other morning when I approached I saw both a great blue heron and a redtail hawk patrolling the garden area. A trench has been dug around the main garden area by the town, which is planned for underground wire to be placed to avoid digging under the fence.

Right now we are doing small harvests of tomatoes, beans, peppers, and radishes. Recent plantings of radish, peas and beans will hopefully bring us into the late fall. Help is always needed and encouraged, Saturday from 10-2 and Thursday for harvest 4-dusk. Most of the small harvests have gone to St. Mary's pantry in Mohegan so far this year. Questions? Text me at 206-947-7173.

~Dawna Dennis



FPCY PANTRY NEWS



Pantry News

Would you like to help at the food pantry?



Next Pantry Dates:

**Sep 14, 28
Oct 12 & 26**

8 to 11am

FPCY PANTRY
They can only take out what we bring in.

We thank you for bringing in **Muffin Mix**



We are very grateful to everyone who donated supplies and financial support for our school supply distribution. Thank you to everyone who helped pack and distribute supplies and to everyone who volunteered to help with pantry during the months of July and August as vacations made scheduling difficult. We can't do it without you. If you are interested in helping this Fall, please do so through Realm or by following these links:

September 14 <https://tinyurl.com/Sep14-pantry>

September 28 <https://tinyurl.com/Sep28-pantry>

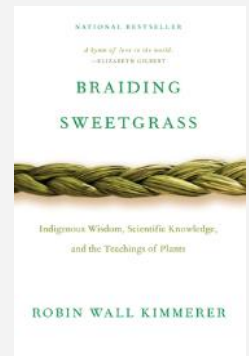
GREEN FAITH

This summer many of us joined Tami in discussions of the book ***Braiding Sweetgrass***, by **Robin Wall Kimmerer**. Perhaps you also read it, and are wondering, as we are, what's next?

Your Green Team is interested in that question too!

Join Connie Knapp in the library on Sunday, September 29th after the 10:30 service to discuss what we might do with what we've learned. Join us whether you've read the book or not. Join us with ideas, or come to listen.

See you on the 29th! Questions? Email Connie@fpcyorktown.org.



INSPIRATIONAL STEWARDSHIP



THE GENERATIONAL WEALTH TRANSFER IS ON ITS WAY!

Philanthropists are telling us \$90 trillion dollars is going to be passed on to the next generation. That's hard to believe, isn't it? Even harder to believe is only \$12 trillion dollars of the \$90 trillion dollars will make its way to charity, and even less to the Church of Jesus Christ. Have you included the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown in YOUR will? If you want to know how to do it or have questions, Charles Barton, Bud Coccodrilli, Connie Knapp or Ann Timmons will be honored to speak with you!

4 WAYS TO GIVE TO FPCY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF YORKTOWN



IN-PERSON

via the offering plate on Sundays, or drop it in the locked mailbox near the office entrance



TEXT

text MYFPCY to 73256, followed by your gift amount



ONLINE

set-up one time or recurring gifts visit: www.tinyurl.com/FPCYgive or scan the QR code
or set it up through your online banking



QR CODE



MAIL

send checks to:
FPCY
2880 Crompond Rd
Yorktown Heights NY,
10589

COMMUNICATIONS



News/Article Submissions

Does your commission/committee have news/announcements for our church community? We have a variety of outlets that we use to communicate with our community—the Disciple Newsletter, the weekly bulletin, the website, our blog, and Facebook. If you have news you want to share (events, meetings, etc.), please send a detailed email to news@fpyorktown.org for consideration for the appropriate publicity. While the Disciple deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication, some of these outlets can get your news out quite quickly!

September 2024

www.FPCYorktown.org
914-245-2186
office@fpcyorktown.org

The DISCIPLE

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9-4
Co-Pastors: Rev. Chip Low and Rev. Tami Seidel



Facebook.com/fpcyorktown



@fpcyorktown



@fpcyorktown



office@fpcyorktown.org



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF YORKTOWN
2880 CROMPOND RD | YORKTOWN HEIGHTS NY, 10598

Current Resident or:

September		3	4	5	6	7
		10:00am F4L Study 5:45pm Mental Health Team 7:30pm Session	10:30am Women's Circle 7pm Centering Prayer	10:30am F4L Study 6:45pm Adult Bells 8:00pm Choir	3:00pm Congregational Connections	8am Women's Birthday Breakfast Club 9:30am Indoor Clean-Up
8 10:30am Worship 11:30am Church Picnic	9 10:00am Knit Togethers Bereavement	10 10am F4L Study 7:30pm Worship & Music	11 10:30 Prayer Shawl 7pm Centering Prayer	12 10:30am F4L Study 6:45pm Adult Bells 8:00pm Choir	13 2:00pm Pantry+ Set-Up	14 8am Pantry Distribution
15 <i>Blessing of the Backpacks</i> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Faith Formation Hour 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Deacons FPCY Music 5:00pm Youth Group Campfire Kickoff	16	17 10:00am F4L Study 7:30pm Mission, Operations	18 12pm - Lunch Bunch 7pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm F4L/Disciple Info Meeting	19 10:30am F4L Study 6:45pm Adult Bells 8:00pm Choir	20 5:00pm Tent take-down Helpers needed	21 8am Men's Breakfast
22 8:00am Worship 9:15am Faith Formation Hour 10:30am Worship 12:00pm FPCY Music	23 10:00am Knit Togethers Bereavement	24 10:00am F4L Study 7:30pm Faith Formation & Communications	25 10:30 Prayer Shawl 5:45pm Mental Health Event 7pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm F4L Study	26 10:30am F4L Study 6:45pm Adult Bells 8:00pm Choir	27 2:00pm Pantry+ Set-Up	28 8am Pantry Distribution 6pm Jan Peek Meal Served
29 8:00am Worship 9:15am Faith Formation Hour 10:30am Worship 12:00pm FPCY Music Green Faith Meeting 5:00pm Youth Group	30	OCTOBER 1 10:00am F4L Study 7:30pm Session	2 10:30am Women's Circle 7pm Centering Prayer 7:30pm F4L Study	3 10:30am F4L Study 6:45pm Adult Bells 8:00pm Choir	4 3:00pm Congregational Connections	5