FPCY Connecting with God, One Another and the World First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown

February-March 2016

DATES TO NOTE:

Sunday, February 28 Faith & Sexuality Kate Ott, guest speaker

Sunday, March 6 Commission Carnival after the services

Sunday, March 13 Scout Sunday

Daylight Saving Time Begins Turn clocks forward.

Saturday, March 19 Violin & Piano Concert 7:30pm

March 20—March 27 Holy Week Services See page 11 for details

The Disciple



"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God?... Therefore, glorify God in your body." ~ I Cor. 6:19-20

Our Lenten theme this year is **Coming to our Senses: Honoring the Body during Lent**. Some of you may be puzzled as to why we chose this theme and what it means.

• Three years ago, many of you journeyed with us through the book *Practicing our Faith: A Way of Life for a Searching People.* Each week, we engaged 12 different ways of practicing our faith, and "Honoring the Body" was the very first one. Many of you found this overall theme enlightening and wanted to pursue these individual practices more deeply and intentionally.

Dr. Stephanie Paulsell, professor at Harvard Divinity School, has written a wonderful companion book called *Honoring the Body: Meditations on a Christian Practice*, which is available for purchase in the church office for \$12. We encourage you to read it and join us for conversation in adult education on Sunday mornings.

- Tami just finished her term as Moderator of Hudson River Presbytery. The theme she chose for her moderatorial year was "Centered in the Body" and each of the 6 Presbytery gatherings throughout the year focused on one of the five senses and what it means to be the Body of Christ that is the presbytery. She received over-whelmingly positive feedback that this theme encouraged people to reflect more deeply and holistically about the scriptures and our faith and calling to be the Body of Christ on earth.
- Throughout its history, the Christian church has had a conflicted relationship with the physical side of our humanity. On the one hand, our physical bodies are part of God's created order which God called good, and Paul uses the metaphor of the body to describe the community of Jesus' followers. On the other hand, the church has often viewed our physical bodies as the primary source of weakness and sin, as something to be overcome and left behind on our spiritual quest. This mixed message which has tilted overwhelmingly toward the negative needs to be corrected if we are to live into the fullness of who God created and calls to be.

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(Continued from page 1)

- We are surrounded by a culture that trumpets way too many unhealthy ideas about our bodies, unrealistic ideals of beauty, and distorted understandings of sexuality and relationships. It is the church's responsibility to teach and model a Christian alternative that affirms the sacredness of our bodies, in all their glorious diversity, and builds healthy relationships that reflect our Christian values. We are excited to have Dr. Kate Ott from the Drew University Theological School with us on Sunday, February 28th, to help us begin and continue a healthy conversation about faith and sexuality. (see more on page 3)
- And finally, we just thought it would be a fun and interesting way to grow in our relationship with God and one another!

Throughout the season of Lent, you will be asked to engage your senses in worship and in your daily lives, pay attention to and take care of your body, try some new practices, and reflect on what it means to be an essential part of the Body of Christ that is the First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown. As Paul reminds us, "Now you are the body of Christ, and individually members of it"(1 Cor. 12:27).

As we journey toward the miracle of Easter and the resurrection of Jesus, may we open our eyes and ears, our hearts and hands, our minds and spirits, to grow in our love for God, ourselves, one another and this world God created.

See you in church, Tami & Chip



Come and find out how you can get involved in our church community:

Budget & Finance Communications Congregational Life Education Mission Operations Personnel Stewardship Worship Design

Deacons/Food Pantry Green Faith Gardeners of Eden

Knitting Groups Lunch Bunch Youth Group

Sunday, March 6th | Fellowship Hall (after 8:30 and 10:45 services)



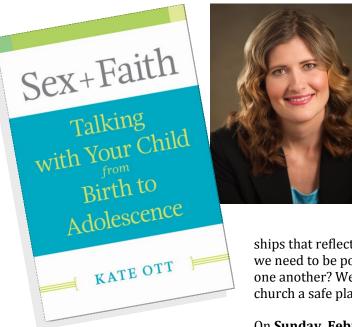
In March Lunch Bunch will meet in Fellowship Hall for our Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner catered by Grand Central. Save the date -Wednesday March 16th at noon. Reservations and monies should be in to Pat by March 6th, the cost is \$18 per person, checks should be made out to Pat Prauda.



Flexible schedule, recently retired, in-between jobs or new to our church and looking to meet new people? Why not give Lunch Bunch a try! We meet in Fellowship Hall here at church on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at noon. Most of the months are Pot Luck except March and November which we have catered and December when we go out to eat. Need more info? Please call coordinator Pat Prauda (737-4674). Hope to see you there!

We're talking about WHAT in church?

In the promises we make to our children and adults in their baptism, we commit to help them know God in



Jesus Christ and grow into the people God created them to be. In Genesis 1-2, God created human beings in God's image, male and female, to live in relationship with God and one another. And God saw what God had made and it was very good!

We live in a culture, however, that bombards us with different messages than the central message of our faith, especially messages about our bodies, sexuality and relationships. As Christians, how can we instill a healthy understanding of body image and relation-

ships that reflects our Christian values and what resources do we need to be positive role models for our children, youth and one another? We begin by talking and listening and making the church a safe place for honest conversation.

On **Sunday, February 28**, our church will be hosting Dr. Kate Ott for a day-long conversation about faith and sexuality. Dr. Ott

is the Assistant Professor of Christian Social Ethics at Drew University's Theological School, a sex educator and author of *Sex + Faith: Talking with Your Child from Birth to Adolescence* (248.8 0 in the church library). Dr. Ott brings a wholistic, faith-based perspective that will empower us all to be a healthy influence in the lives of our children and youth.

Here's the schedule for the day:

8:30 & 10:45am Dr. Ott preaches during the worship services

9:30-10:30am Adult Education Discussion on Faith & Sexuality

Topic: Why it is important for the church as a whole to communicate a healthy theology of sexuality for all ages in today's culture.

12:15-2:00pm Adult & Parent Workshop

Topic: Talking about sexuality and faith values. This workshop is based on skill-building for parents of children of all ages and other adults who work with youth.

Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Tami Seidel (tami@fpcyorktown.org).

Let us know if you need child care.

4:00-6:00 pm Middle School Workshop (Focus on Healthy Relationships)
6:30-8:30 pm High School Workshop (Focus on Defining their Values & a Sexual Ethic)

All are invited

especially youth, parents, grandparents and any adults who interact with children and youth.

Come on February 28 for this important day and join the conversation. If you have any questions about the day, please do not hesitate to ask Tami, Chip or Stephanie.

Online Giving: A New Offering Plate

www.fpcyorktown.org/giving

Online Giving has provided a way for people to be faithful givers to the mission of our church. 30% of our giving now happens online. People set up one-time and recurring payments that are transferred from their bank account to the church's account. The convenience allows people to support the mission of the church which they believe in very strongly in the midst of lifestyles that don't always allow people to attend church weekly. And, in an age when people no longer carry money in their wallets as much, online giving allows them to give as much as they want when they want.

Here are some things to know about Online Giving as you use it or consider using it.

- Online Giving replaces envelopes. We order fewer boxes of envelopes (and reduce our costs) because people give online.
- Online Giving requires thoughtfulness about giving to special offerings. Without envelopes to remind us, giving to special offerings must be done using a pew envelope or by setting up a special gift to the offering online.
- Online giving allows donors to set their own frequency of giving. Once you create an account through the website above, start and stop dates can be added as well as how often (one time, weekly, monthly) giving should occur. Along with setting the frequency for regular giving, the frequency can be set for any special offerings as well.
- Online Giving has a convenience cost to the church. Each transaction from a bank account costs \$.25. As you think about giving online, the church's costs go down when transactions happen once a month or once a quarter or once or twice a year.
- Online Giving can be changed at any time. At least annually, update your giving. Pledges are not automatically updated. They must be edited in your Online Giving account.
- Online Giving is safe and secure. Vanco, the company with whom we work, provides this secure service and has built a secure webpage through which to give.

To set up an account, go to the website above and click "Give Now". It is recommended to set up a Profile, but not necessary. *Please note that this is different than your MyFPCY log-in.* On the right hand side of the page, click "Create Profile" and enter the pertinent information including who you are, you bank information, your user id and password. Then, enter the amounts you want to give in the different offering categories, and make sure to add a note for the offerings so that the office knows your intent. Then, choose the frequency of the gift and the start and end dates, and click "Continue". Review your information, then click "Process".

Online Giving is not for everyone. Some people prefer giving with envelopes and placing them in the offering plate or dropping them off at the office. Others give stock gifts. Some people use the Bill Pay system at their bank (which is a free service). Online Giving is simply another option in the variety of ways people give.



What all forms of giving have in common is that they allow us to make faithful generosity our way of life. We give because God has given so much to us, and we seek to grow in our generosity because God's gifts are so abundant. We give because we want the world to know the love, grace, peace and justice of the God we know in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. If you have questions about Online Giving, please contact the office.

Jan Peek Meal Thank you to Lynda Spring, Mike and Maura Delaney and Denise Hetz for preparing the meal for Jan Peek Clients on January the 23rd. Because of the storm, Jan Peek graciously accepted the meal on the Friday afternoon so every one could be safe on Saturday. Thank you to all involved. The February 27th meal will be prepared and served by the Lodewick and Larson families. If you would like to do a meal for Jan Peek please speak to Pat Prauda or sign up on the board across form the fellowship Hall. We have openings from May thru December!



Congratulations! We survived our first all-vegetarian potluck lunch!

Here are a few of the comments we received:

"Wow! The food is so colorful!"

"Delicious!"

"I was surprised at how filling the food was! I didn't feel hungry afterwards."

"That was awesome! That was the first church potluck I've attended where I could eat everything on the table!" ~ from a vegetarian

The Green Team thanks you all for your flexibility and willingness to try something new!

During the season of Lent, many people pledge to give up some kind of food or drink, like chocolate or coffee, as a way to become closer to God and more aware of their faith in their life. FPCY's Green Team is inviting the congregation to give up meat one day each week for the 6 weeks of Lent.

Meatless Monday is not a new idea. During World War I, the U.S. Food Administration encouraged Meatless Mondays and Wheatless Wednesdays to aid the war effort and conserve basic staples. It was reinstituted during World War II and during the post-war era to help feed war-ravaged Europe. Meatless Monday was revived in 2003 by former ad man and author Sid Lerner in association with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. This effort to improve health and environmental sustainability has now spread to 36 countries around the world.

So what's the big deal?

- **Good for your Health** Reducing meat consumption has been shown to reduce your risk of heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes; curb obesity; extend lifespan and increase the nutritional quality of your diet.
- **Good for your Wallet** Meat is more expensive than the vegetables, bean and grains that make up a meatless diet, so it helps your weekly food budget and can curtail healthcare spending on the health problems listed above.
- **Good for the Planet** Meat production is very resource intensive, using significantly more water and fossil fuels than vegetable production. For example, it takes approximately 1,850 gallons of water to produce one pound of beef, but only 39 gallons of water to produce one pound of vegetables. Reducing meat consumption saves valuable natural resources and reduces greenhouse gases and fossil fuel dependence.

As we seek to be good stewards of our bodies and the resources and the planet God has given us, let's join together in reducing the amount of meat we consume. The Green Team would love to hear from you about your experience with this, as well as any good recipes you find! For more information and recipes, please visit

www.meatlessmonday.com.



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Church School "Chalkboard"

To all our children, families and Church School staff, we are well into the Lenten Season! The First day of Lent was February 10th and lots of fun things were planned for the children! We hosted our Mardi Gras/Lent event on February 14th in fellowship hall. We also celebrated love on this Valentine's Day! There were symbolic crafts made, snacks enjoyed, and fun was had by all as we learned about the true meaning of Mardi Gras. The children listened to Pastor Tami as she discussed the handout "What is Mardi Gras?", followed by making Valentine's Day cards, bead bracelets, scratch off masks, and prayer flags. The children also colored a Lenten calendar and thought about why we celebrate on this special day just before Lent begins.

We would like to share with everyone what's happening in Church School...



Re:form: The 7th and 8th grade completed Old Testament study. They spent one week discussing personal prayer prior to starting their Lenten Study: A Journey with Jesus in the 21st Century.



The 5th/6th grade CONNECT class finished Unit 8, Jesus: The Savior and joined the Sunday School's Mardi Gras Party in Fellowship Hall. We have moved on to Unit 9, The Apostle and learned about Saul's (Paul's) conversion on the road to Damascus, accompanied by a craft project based on the lesson's icon, a butterfly.

In the lesson on the gospel, we learned about how Paul urges believers to become ambassadors of the gospel in the world. The craft based on the megaphone icon symbolizes the power of words and the power of the Holy Spirit. As we had been approaching Lent, we studied Betrayal, Peter betraying Jesus three times, Death, Jesus being tortured and crucified and the the Resurrection of Jesus. The kids had many questions and commentary during these past few weeks of very in depth topics. Students will continue taking turns reading lesson related passages in their own CONNECT bibles and discussing these readings. Snacks are enjoyed while watching lesson related videos involving students in a present day school setting. In our Spark classroom (Pre-K through 4th Grade) the children have completed *The Storm* unit from Matthew 8:23-27 and the Walking on Water rotation from Matthew 14:22-33.

Family Conversations could include:



I. What would it feel like to be in a boat during a storm?

2. For what could a storm be a metaphor - what might symbolically feel like a storm and cause fear?

3. What can we do to help us focus on Jesus when we are afraid?

The children have learned two songs: "God is Good" and "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands".

In preparation of Holy Week, we have begun The Last Supper from John 13:1-20.

Family Conversations could include:

- I. How do you know when someone loves you?
- 2. Do you or would you like to have someone wash your feet? Why?
- 3. How can you show love to somebody in your family? To somebody outside your family?
- 4. Using the numbered cards in a deck of cards, pull I out each day and strive to do that many acts of love during the day. They can be very simple things - helping with a chore, delivering a meal, or making a card for someone.

For families to do together:

Bake Jesus bread together (any bread will do!). While it bakes in the oven, read stories in your Bible about Jesus serving others. When you eat the bread, instead of cutting it into pieces, pull off chunks and serve it to one another like Jesus did with his disciples.

Thank you to all of our staff that make Church School the wonderful program that it is and for all the parents who share your wonderful children with us.

Co-Superintendents Liza Placido & Michele Mosca



One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Banks

Teach your children about one of the Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church — the annual One Great Hour of Sharing (see opposite page or more details). The fish banks were distributed in church school and will be collected on Palm Sunday



Get ready for VBS 2016!

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

Go to cokesburyvbs.com/yorktown to register.

Questions? Contact Alice Chin, Sharon Larsen, Stephanie Hare or Tami Seidel.

FPCY YOUTH

If you are currently in 8th through 12th grade and are interested in going to Triennium,

but didn't get the chance to sign up back in November, we still have a chance to register more participants! Triennium is July 19th - 23rd at Purdue University. It's a once every three year opportunity to join with Presbyterian

Youth from across the US and the world! It's five days of fun, fellowship, music and worship. Please speak to Steph or Chip if you, or a youth in your family, is interested.

On February 28th, Dr. Kate Ott is coming to do workshops with us during Youth Group time about our bodies, relationships and ethics. We are adjusting our timing in order to have time for some really important activities. The Middle School group will meet from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, and the High School group will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Coming up in March, we will be meeting on Sundays, March 6 and 20, back at our regular meeting times: Middle School at 4:30 and High School at 6 pm.



Don't forget, if you wish to join us on our mission trip to Atlanta, GA July 31 - Aug 5 with DOOR, Registration forms are due in the church office by March 1.

-Steph Hare, Youth Coordinator



SPECIAL OFFERINGS one great hour of sharing

March 2016

look for pew envelopes or give online (fpcyorktown.org)

Through your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, you can serve people in your community and around the world by alleviating hunger, rebuilding after crises or catastrophe, and working with communities to overcome oppression.

A few examples of the impact of your gifts:

- 220,000 people received aid in the aftermath of the Nepal Earthquakes.
- Over 308,000 people in over 30 countries have increased food security and livelihoods through international development work.
- More than 10,000 children and their families in the Dominican Republic have access to clean water.

Serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received -1 Peter 4:10

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Deacons' Corner

Do all the good you can By all the means you can In all the ways you can To all the people you can As long as ever you can. -John Wesley

Remember when you were a kid and got into deep conversations with your friends about big topics like sin and how to get into Heaven? It could really get to be a scary discussion trying to figure out what kinds of sins were only just bad and what kinds were really bad! One of my friends told me that her Mom said that she was told that when you die God takes account of all the good things you did and all the bad things you did and puts them on a scale. If the "good" outweighed the "bad" then you were safe and could figure that you would get into Heaven. Phew! But then again, how could you ever be sure that you had done enough "good" things?!

Food Pantry Item-of-the-Month

Cereal

Next Dates: February 27, March 12, 19 9 to 11am In Confirmation class years later we came to learn that it is by God's tremendous GRACE that we are actually saved. That we do not have to earn eternal life. That God's GRACE is so large – so complete – so all encompassing – so loving – that it is incomprehensible. And yet we

are saved. And so thus began a period of relative anxiety free living for me.

But wait a minute! What about doing good? Can we forget about that now? Is there any need to think about helping hungry people, sick people, needy people, or working to end slavery and the human-trafficking that still goes on today, working for social justice in our country and abroad, taking care of the earth and all of its living creatures – animals as well as plant life? Can we forget about all that? Absolutely not!!

But isn't it all really overwhelming? Can "little ole me" really make a difference?? ABSOLUTELY! As insignificant as you might feel that your actions, your kind words, your helping hands, your thoughtfulness, and your resources shared might be... they are, in fact, tremendously powerful when borne on the intention to thank God for his great love and grace – borne on the intention to show your love for God and for your brothers and sisters and all of "life" in all its myriad forms. Your individual actions create a tremendous amount of good!

It matters not how small or insignificant an action is that is taken with care, with love and with a deliberate frame of mind to respond to God's overwhelming GRACE. That action will have great significance in the field of God's Unified AwareBring all the JOY you can By all the means you can In all the ways you can To all the people you can As long as ever you can. -adapted from John Wesley by Carol

ness. Modern physicists have begun to describe this great unified field. It is all pervasive, all encompassing, and everywhere present, without borders, always was and always will be. And even more interesting – physicists postulate that something that happens in one place in this UNIFIED field can have a ripple effect miles and miles – even galaxies away!!

I don't understand it. It's too much for my brain. But it is an amazing thought! Physicists have joked that something as small as a butterfly's wings flapping on one side of the earth can affect the breeze on the other side of the globe. If this were true – and just for argument's sake we say it is...how much more then could our own good deeds – no matter how seemingly small or unworthy – but done consistently and lovingly – done in response to Jesus' command to love God and to love one another with all our hearts and minds and strength... how much more good could our own deeds accomplish?? – If a single butterfly could have such effect, how much more could the sum of all good deeds do??

Ok, so we don't need good works to get to Heaven. But I'd like to believe that together we can make a huge difference in this world. The Deacons see this all the time in all of the Ministries of our church. You, too, can share in these Ministries. We welcome you and invite you to become a part of them. Do you have time to drive someone to a doctor's appointment or a chemo treatment? Do you have a Friday afternoon free to help unload the 5,000 pounds of food coming into the building for the next day's Pantry? Could you and your child come on a Saturday morning and assist with the many jobs necessary to run the Pantry? Do you like to cook? Could you make a meal for someone recently released from the hospital? Could you bring in a food item or diapers and place them in the basket in the gathering space? Could you write a greeting card or pick up the phone to call someone you haven't seen around lately? Could you call any Deacon and see what help may be needed right then?

Please keep an eye out for the FORM that the Deacons will be distributing throughout February asking for your help. God's world needs you in any ways you are able to give - and give JOYFULLY! Each of us CAN make a difference. Together – united – we could start to change the world.

Thank you, as always, for your generous giving to our Deacons' Fund and God Bless you all.

- Carol Thorne-Gaetani for the Deacons



Ways to get involved and Support Mission!

On Sunday, March 13 at 12:15 a special training and organizing meeting will be held for everyone interested in volunteering to be part of the new **Hospitality Ministry**. This group will function much like the church's usher ministry where hospitality teams will

sponsor coffee hours several times throughout the year. If you ask almost anyone in the congregation why they decided to join our church, they will tell you it was the friendliness of our members and the welcome feeling they got when they first attended. Hospitality is a crucial cornerstone of who we are as a church. We hope you will consider joining us as part of this vital ministry. All are welcome.

Support Our Mission Trips with Your Deposit Cans & Bottles.

We have an easy way for you to help support our mission trip to Atlanta this summer- bring in your bottles and cans that have a deposit and let the Mission Trip Team collect your refund! There is a specially marked container near the Deacons' Board in the Gathering Space. Just drop them off and the Mission Team will return them for the deposit.

Buy Dean's Beans Coffee Beans for use in your own home, and support our mission trips at the same time. We will be selling bags of the same coffee we serve (Columbian (regular) and French Roast Peruvian (decaf)) in Fellowship Hall on the first Sunday of every month (*March 6th is your next chance!*). Each bag will be sold for \$12 (plus any additional that you would like to donate), and all profits will be used to support our mission trip this summer. Thank you for your support!



On Saturday, April 2nd, The Mission Commission will be hosting a large tag sale to help fund future mission trips. Please take a look around your house and consider what items you no longer need or use that can be donated towards our effort. And tell your neighbors. We will be opening the doors of Fellowship Hall on Friday April, 1st. for donation drop off. All unsold items will be taken to Goodwill and Salvation Army. Please consider volunteering a part of the day at the sale. Or, if you own a large truck or van we need your help after the sale to transport the unsold items. If you can help or have any questions, contact Barbara Humphrey (914-962-7913 or <u>dbhumphrey1@aol.com</u>).

It's Time for the Deacons Fund Offering!



We take a special collection twice a year (February and August) for the Deacons. The Deacons rely exclusively on funds received from the congregation and other donors to carry out their work, which includes the Food Pantry, and school supplies and diapers for clients of the Food Pantry.

Please consider including the Deacons' fund in addition to your regular giving. You can put a check or envelope in the offering plate labeled "Deacons' fund," or if you give electronically using the "Give Now" link on our website (there is a special line to direct your gift to the Deacons). Thank you for your generosity!





from the Church Library:

It's not too late for New Year's resolutions! But this book is not about weight loss or firmer abs -the goals in **Hands Free Life** (249 S) are in its subtitle: 9 Habits for overcoming Distraction, Living Better, & Loving more. Author Rachel Macy Stafford provides readers with simple, non-intimidating, and motivating methods to let go of distraction and connect with loved ones. She also writes a popular blog, "Hands Free Mama," magazine articles, and has been featured on television.

Although there's an emphasis on parenting, the book is applicable for many life situations. As one reviewer wrote: "At last—a book about changing habits that didn't leave me overwhelmed and doubtful, but rather excited and hopeful! [The] gentle tone, personal reflections, and easy-to-embrace habits inspired and encouraged me."

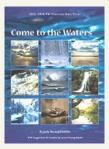


HONORING

BODY

-Carol Jensen, Church Librarian

Adult Ed for Lent



<u>First Wednesday of Each Month @ 10:30am</u> **Come to the Waters** by Judy Record Fletcher Women's Circle Bible Study. In this monthly study, we explore some of the Bible's more than 800 references to water.

Sunday Mornings at 9:30 AM

Honoring the Body by Stephanie Paulsell

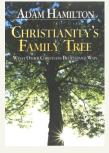
In keeping with our Lenten theme Coming to our Senses: Honoring the Body during Lent, we will read and discuss Honoring the Body: Meditations on a Christian Practice. Paulsell weaves together scripture, history, and lively stories that can help us recover and sustain an appreciation for ourselves as physical beings and the sacredness of our embodied lives.

Thursday Mornings at 10 AM

Christianity's Family Tree with Adam Hamilton

Through our study of the beliefs and practices of Orthodoxy, Catholicism, Lutheranism, Presbyterianism, Anglicanism, Baptists, Pentecostalism, and Methodism we will learn,

as Adam Hamilton puts it, that in this family tree, "we are all nourished by the same sap, connected to the same trunk, anchored by the same roots."



Chamber Music Concert — Dmitri Berlinsky, Violinist — March 19th at 7:30



On Saturday evening, March 19th at 7:30, the Concert Series will once again present internationally known violin virtuoso, Dmitri Berlinsky with pianist Simona Frenkel in the fourth concert of our 2015-16 season. We are indeed honored to again host Dmitri Berlinsky who is one of the most sought after concert violinists, -- and who is currently performing in Europe. Last year in February, Mr. Berlinsky's concert for Yorktown brought a standing ovation and cheers from our audience, and was hailed as one of the most amazing concerts of the season. Mr. Berlinsky arrived on the international scene as the youngest winner in the history of the Paganini International Violin Competition. He made subsequent triumphs at the Montreal International Violin Competition (Grand Prize), the International Tchaikovsky Competition and the Queen Elizabeth Competition in Brussels which led to appearances with major orchestras in Europe, Russia, the Far East, North and South America. Mr. Berlinsky has performed in such major concert venues as Carnegie and Avery Fisher Halls in New York, Kennedy Center in Washington DC, Tokyo's Suntory Hall, Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory, Mariinsky Concert Hall, Leipzeig Gewandhause, Berlin Philharmonic Hall, and many other international concert halls. To learn more about him, checkout his website: dmitriberlinsky.com. We are grateful again that Simona is able to attract performers of Mr. Berlinsky's caliber and it is a reflection of her reputation as a versatile and established international performer. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall, and a donation is suggested to help support the concert series.

HOLY WEEK



As we move through Lent, here is the schedule of special services to prepare for and look forward to.

Palm Sunday, March 20 ~ Worship Services at 8:30am and 10:45 am
 Maundy Thursday, March 24 ~Worship at 7:30 pm
 Good Friday, March 25 ~ Sanctuary is Open All Day ~ Worship at 7:30 pm
 Easter Sunday, March 27 ~
 Sunrise Service at 6 am in Downing Park followed by Breakfast in Fellowship Hall Worship Services at 8:30 am and 10:45 am

Knitting Groups

Prayer Shawl Group will meet next on March 2 at 9:30am, (Women's Circle at 10:30am) and March 16th at 10:30am. Anyone who would like to join us in knitting is most welcome. In addition to the regular knitters who come on Wednesdays, we have at least seven off-site knitters. Contacts: Marianna Sherman (914-737-8294) or Fran Schiel (914-245-5396).

The Knit Togethers will meet next on February 22 and March 14, 2016. We are busy during these cold winter days knitting baby blankets, baby sweaters, lap blankets, and hats & mittens for children. All who knit or crochet are welcome to join us. Our meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 10;00am to 11:30 am in the Lounge, Room 15. For information: Norean Radke (962-4370) or Lois Ostling (962-2809).



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Brone State State

February/March	 21 Healing Service 8:30 & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Amnesty Letter Writing Church School, Adult Ed, & Confirmation 12:00pm Deacons Youth Bells 	22 10am Knit Togethers	23 9:30am Disciple Bible Study 7:30pm Education Communications	24 9:00am Stewardship 7:00pm Disciple Bible Study	25 I 0am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Covenant Bible Study 8:00pm Choir	26	27 9am Food Pantry 6pm Jan Peek Meal
	28 Faith + Sexuality (see pg 3) 8:30 & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Church School, Adult Ed, & Confirmation 12:00pm Youth Bells 12:15pm Adult/Parent Workshop 4pm MS Youth 6:30pm HS Youth	29	l 9:30am Disciple Bible Study 7:30pm Session	2 9:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle 7:00pm Disciple Bible Study	3 10am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Covenant Bible Study 7:30pm YPP Board 8:00pm Choir	4	5 5pm Confirmation Class Visit to Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
	6 Commission Carnival 8:30 & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Church School, Adult Ed, & Confirmation 12:00pm Youth Bells 4:30pm MS Youth 6:00pm HS Youth	7	8 9:30am Disciple Bible Study 7:30pm Worship	9 7:00pm Disciple Bible Study	10 10am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Covenant Bible Study 8:00pm Choir	II Confirmation H	12 Retreat at Holmes 9am Food Pantry
	13 Scout Sunday Daylight Savings—Clocks Forward 8:30 & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Amnesty Letters, Church School, Adult Ed, & Confirmation 12pm Youth Bells	14 10am Knit Togethers 7pm Church School	15 9:30am Disciple Bible Study 7:30pm Mission Operations	l 6 l 0:30am Prayer Shawl 7pm Disciple Bible Study	17 10am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 8:00pm Choir	18	19 9am Food Pantry 7:30pm Concert
	20 Palm Sunday 8:30 & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Church School, Adult Ed, & Confirmation 12:00pm Youth Bells 4:30pm MS Youth 6:00pm HS Youth	21 nday Services: Sunn	22 7:30pm Education Communication rise 6:45am, 8:30 & 10:	23 45am (no church scho	24 Maundy Thursday 7:30 Service ol)	25 Good Friday 7:30 Service	26