



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

June 2017

#### DATES TO NOTE:

**June 4**  
**Pentecost Sunday**  
Wear Red

**June 10**  
Progressive Dinner  
5:30pm

**June 11**  
**Children's Sunday**  
Summer Schedule Begins  
One Service at 10:00am

**June 18**  
Celebrating Our  
Graduates and the  
Gifts of Men Sunday

# The Disciple



### Summer Sabbath

Although it feels like we just celebrated Easter, summer is right around the corner. Before summer comes, however, we are spending much of May and June celebrating all the ways we have grown in our faith and discipleship over the last program year – through Confirmation, women and men of the church, adult education, and Sunday School and youth groups. So many have worked so hard, and we are so grateful for their faithful service in the faith formation of our children, youth and adults! As we reflect on and celebrate these important ministries, consider how God may be calling you to grow in your faith, either by participating yourself or volunteering to help.

As we move into summer, many of us are looking forward to this season of sunshine and relaxed schedules, holidays and picnics. Whether you're planning a vacation or a staycation we hope your summer plans include some Sabbath rest. As we learned during Lent, we all need rest and time to reconnect with God and the important things in life. As you make your summer plans, how will you connect with God, your family and friends, and the beauty of God's creation? Following our four theme words from Lent, how will you create opportunities to stop, rest, embrace and feast on God's goodness and blessings to you?

Here are some summer Sabbath suggestions:

- ◇ Worship with us Sunday mornings at 10:00 am, starting June 11 through September 3.
- ◇ Walk our new labyrinth and discover this wonderful way to relax, meditate, pray and reconnect with your spirit and God.
- ◇ Try a new discipline of daily prayer. A great resource for this is *Earth Gospel: A Guide to Prayer for God's Creation* (available in the church office for \$7).
- ◇ Volunteer at the Food Pantry on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays and check out our new full choice model. Because our regular volunteers go on vacation too, we can use your extra help.
- ◇ Stop by or help out at Vacation Bible School (July 10-14 @ St. Andrew's Lutheran Church) and find out your God-given superpower at Hero Central.
- ◇ Pray for our teens and adults who will be traveling to Maryland and the Dominican Republic on our mission trips in July and August.

As spring turns to summer, may God bless you with rest and rejuvenate your faith, that we may continue to serve God together in joy and gratitude.

See you in church,

Jami



*-You're off to great places! Today is your day!  
Your mountain is waiting, so... get on your way!!!  
~Dr. Seuss*

Lisa Eliasson is in the process of wrapping up her 11<sup>th</sup> and final year at Yorktown Presbyterian Preschool. She will be retiring and moving to North Carolina this summer.

Over her eleven years of service at the preschool, she spent 6 years as the afternoon teacher and 5 years as the morning teacher and director of the program. Lisa, affectionately known around Yorktown as "Miss Lisa," has touched many lives during her time here at YPP. She has wiped countless tears, fixed numerous boo-boos, played dress up, worn the hats of; a veterinarian, creative director, counselor, comedian, secretary, event planner, detective, photographer, nutritionist, etc.

It takes a special person to teach preschool and we sure were lucky to have had Lisa for this role. We wish you all the best with your move and we appreciate the time and dedication that you demonstrated while working at YPP. You are a gift that so many families were blessed to have had in our lives.



## Graduation Recognition — Announcements due by June 12

On June 18 we will recognize high school and college graduates. If someone in your family is graduating, please send the following information to Lisa in the office ([office@fpcyorktown.org](mailto:office@fpcyorktown.org)) so that it can be included in that Sunday's bulletin: Graduate's Name, School, Diploma/Degree.



## FPCY 2025 -- Who will we become? An update from the Ministry Development Team

At the January 2017 Leaders' Retreat, the Session and Deacons explored the questions "Where is the Spirit leading FPCY?" and "What is waiting to be born, what shall we be in 2025?" We are blessed to be a growing and thriving faith community! Many of the goals set in our last strategic assessment ten years ago have been met. So what's next?

To begin to answer those questions, Session commissioned a small team, which includes *Judy Chessa, Arnold Cribari, Katharine Frase, Jason Leslie, Liza Placido, John Winget, Chip Low and Tami Seidel.*

Our team has been meeting for the past six weeks to discern the breadth and depth of FPCY's current activities -- and what a great portfolio it is! Two unifying themes are emerging for us, which could help us focus our resources and energies -- and which we look forward to discussing with you!

We NEED your insights! Beginning in May and extending through the summer and early fall, small group meetings will be held to discuss these concepts and to receive your suggestions on our strategic priorities. We really need your inspiration, suggestions and prayers for this work. Please feel free to reach out to any of the team with questions...and watch for the upcoming meeting announcements!





**Help Support the 2017 Mission Trips to Annapolis, MD & Caimonial, Dominican Republic**

We have assembled two awesome teams of volunteers who will be stepping way out of their comfort zones this summer to be the hands and feet both of our congregation and of Christ.

Our Maryland team will work with the First Presbyterian Church of Annapolis on a week of literacy camp. The summer "readers theater" is part of a year round program that supports young students from under-served elementary schools who read below the expected level for their age group. Additionally, our team will learn about the African-American history of Annapolis, and visit the PC(USA) Office of Public Witness in Washington DC which works to translate the church's deep convictions about justice, peace and freedom from words into reality.



Our team traveling to the Dominican Republic will work in partnership with Bridges to Community and local community members to work on homes in severe need of repair in the village of Caimonial. This area in the central highland area of DR is one adversely affected by poverty, deforestation, and high emigration rates. We will also work in an organic tree nursery that supports local food security and combats deforestation, while learning about the causes of systemic poverty as well as the key tools of sustainable development.

In order to make our Mission trips successful, we need your help.

- ⇒ Our Maryland team needs **AIR MATTRESSES** to cushion our sleeping quarters which will be the floor of First Presbyterian Annapolis. Does your family have one (or more) we can borrow from July 15-22?
- ⇒ Our DR team needs **RIDES TO THE AIRPORT**. Do you have a largish car/van/SUV and time to give us a ride to or pick us up from JFK? We will leave at 5 am on Saturday, July 29 and we will be returning at 9 pm on Sunday, August 6.
- ⇒ Your **FINANCIAL SUPPORT** is also needed to make these trips affordable for all participants. Make a donation via MyFPCY - Choose "Mission Trip Donations" from the list of funds; or type in [fpcyorktown.org/missiontripsupport](http://fpcyorktown.org/missiontripsupport). With a donation, you can place your name on a "hand" or "foot" that will hang in the Gathering Space to show your support for our teams.



A BIG thanks to our Tag Sale Committee:

Barbara Humphrey, Linda Swift, Emily Monk, Mary Vez-zuto and Suzy Jarosz.

Thanks as well to all who volunteered, donated, and shopped!

You can continue to support the Mission trip fund through out the year as well:

- ⇒ Bring your REFUNDABLE bottles to the box in the Gathering Space. The Praudas will redeem them for the Mission.
- ⇒ Buy a bag of Dean's Beans coffee on the 1st of each month or speak to Heidi Haring, if you miss that Sunday. They are \$12 for a one pound bag, roughly comparable to a bag of good coffee at the grocery store, except that this is certified Fair Trade AND Organic coffee. With each purchase, you are helping the earth and hard working people to make a decent living. That's quite a lot for your dollars!

**These Mission opportunities would not be possible without your help.  
Thank you so much for sending our teams out to serve, learn, and make connections  
with our neighbors, near and far!**

**Lunch  
Bunch**

Join us for monthly Pot Luck Lunch on Wednesday, June 21st at noon in Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share or a dessert. Coffee, tea and cold drinks will be supplied.

Bring a friend, meet someone new or just catch up on what is happening at Church. All are welcome!

### Congregational Life

It's never too early to start planning for the church picnic, Sunday, September 10! Congregational Life is looking for volunteers to help with the planning and execution of the church picnic. We would like to make this a fun event for all ages! If you are interested, please contact Deb Bernardini or Alyssa Bauer.



### Deacons' Corner

#### Looking for a Way to Eat Green this Summer, and Support Local Farming (and also our own Food Pantry)?

Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, right here in Yorktown (preserving the land of a former 163 acre dairy farm) is a regional education center that offers programs on healthy and sustainable food production. This involves researching and teaching skills for small-scale suburban and urban farming techniques (including farming in a protected watershed), and illustrating sustainable living practices such as alternative energy sources for the residents of Westchester County.

Hilltop Hanover is committed to donating 10% of their produce each summer to local food pantries, but in 2016 despite the drought they donated 25% of their produce, over 13,000 pounds, to local pantries, including our own FPCY pantry.

Hilltop Hanover is also a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm, and offers a market-style CSA Farm Share program each summer. Sign up for a share (designed for the weekly vegetable needs of a family of four) and then come shop at the farm stand to choose your organic produce on a weekly basis. What a great easy way to increase the Green in your summer, and support local farmers who in turn support our Pantry work. You can learn more at [www.hilltophanoverfarm.org](http://www.hilltophanoverfarm.org).

If you would like to financially demonstrate your appreciation of what Hilltop Hanover does for the community, our church is collecting donations to its "Farm to Pantry" effort. Just mark your check "Farm to Pantry" or donate online (choosing "Other Giving" with a memo notation of "Farm to Pantry").

**Food Pantry  
Item-of-the-Month**

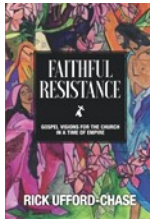
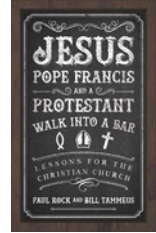
**Canned Fruit**

*Next Dates:  
June 10 & 24  
9 to 11am*

**Would you like to help support organic produce coming to our food pantry?**

## New in the Church Library

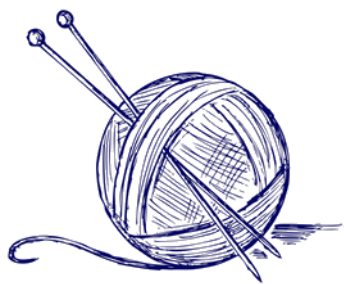
How's this for a catchy title -- **Jesus, Pope Francis, and a Protestant Walk into a Bar; Lessons for the Christian Church**, by Paul Rock and Bill Tammeus? (270.8 R) This slim volume is an honest look at the relations between Catholic and Protestant faiths, in light of Pope Francis' election in 2013. The authors argue that now is the time to come together to try to understand each other more fully and work toward improved interfaith and interpersonal relations.



**Faithful Resistance; Gospel Visions for the Church in a Time of Empire** by Rick Ufford-Chase (285 U) is a critical look at the Presbyterian Church in today's society. The author, who is co-director of the Stony Point Center, has assembled essays that invite readers to struggle with what it means to be a faithful person in the midst of a popular culture at odds with Gospel values. It provides practical ideas for churches who want to address social justice issues, and encourages us to find the heart of what it means to be human in America and to act accordingly.

*Correction: The Sabbath-related books written-up in the May Disciple are available in the Church Library. Look for them on the new book shelf, call number 263.*

Carol Jensen, Church Librarian



The **Knit Togethers** will meet on June 12 & 26.

We continue to enjoy knitting for others in the community. Come and join us. All who knit or crochet are welcome. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, in the Lounge Room 15.

For information: Norean Radke (call 962-4370 or email radke30@msn.com) or Lois Ostling (962-2809)

**Prayer Shawl Group** will meet next on June 7 at 9:30am and June 21 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.

## Jan Peek House

is a shelter for people experiencing homelessness, including several veterans. Our Mission Commission has worked with Jan Peek for many years. They depend on a meal from our congregation on the 4th Saturday of each month.

Thank you to Jennifer and Patrick Burns for preparing/ serving the meal on Saturday May 27th. We are still looking for 2 families for August 26th, September 23rd, November 25th and December 23rd. This can also be done by a group of people, so if you belong to a group you may want to suggest it!

If you would be interested in preparing a meal, please sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway across from Fellowship Hall.

Questions? Speak to Pat Prauda (email ppladyofscotland@aol.com or call 737-4674)



## Noontime Meal Prep

We are always looking for an extra pair of hands to help prepare a noontime meal. We will meet at 1:15 pm on Tuesday June 13th at the Peekskill Presbyterian Church in Peekskill (705 South Street, Peekskill—use the kitchen entrance off of Washington St). The meal will be served to the Homeless Clients at the Salvation Army on Wednesday, June 14th. If you can spare 1 to 1.5 hours, we could surely use you! No experience or long term commitment required. Interested in helping? Speak to Pat Prauda.



## FPCY YOUTH

### Join us for a Hike!

Our last official Youth Group activity of the school year will be on Sunday afternoon, June 18th, when we are going to take a hike up Turkey Mountain! Katharine Frase and Kevin McAuliffe will lead us in a hike up one of the highest points in Westchester County which is right in our backyard here in Yorktown.

We will carpool from the church, departing at about 11:45 am (there is one service that Sunday at 10 am). Please bring: water, a bag lunch, bug spray and sunscreen. And being that it is Fathers Day, please feel free to bring a Dad, Step-Dad, Grandpa, or Uncle with you too!

Wear appropriate shoes for walking up a steep hill: hiking shoes are great, so are sturdy sneakers with good tread. Flip flops and Crocs? No. We will hike Turkey Mountain and eat our lunch at the top with the beautiful view of our little corner of God's creation (and if the sky is really clear, we may be able to see across the Hudson to Bear Mountain and all the way to NYC).

Parents, please plan to pick up your Youth at the Turkey Mountain Parking lot located in Yorktown on Rt. 118, across from Croton Heights Road by 1:30 pm.

All Middle School and High School Youth are invited to join us. Questions? Call or email Steph: 914-826-1227, youth@fpcyorktown.org.

### Save the Dates

**Saturday, June 10**  
Progressive Dinner  
*For those who RSVP'd*

**Sunday, June 18**

Youth Hike up  
Turkey Mountain

*One of the  
Highest Points in  
Westchester County!*



### Summer Camp @ Holmes

For more information on camp opportunities, go to: [holmescamp.org](http://holmescamp.org) and click on "Summer Camp."

If cost is a concern, there are scholarships available. Please speak to Chip or Tami.



We need a couple of Youth volunteers to water the potato plants in the Memorial Garden this summer... especially during the weeks of July 16-22 and July 30-Aug 5.

The potatoes can be checked in on Sundays and at least one time during the middle of the week.

If you can commit to tending the potato project, let Steph know.

**Are you following the progress of our potato project on Instagram?**

Follow us @fpcy\_youth or #FPCYPotatoProject



God is Counting on You!  
Sunday School 2016-2017

The staff and children, along with the  
co-pastors of the  
First Presbyterian Church of Yorktown,  
cordially invite you to

**Children's Sunday**  
**June 11, 2017**  
**10:00 am**  
**in the Sanctuary**

Please join us as we celebrate another  
amazing year of our faith journey  
during this special service

**No RSVP required.**



July 10 to 14 ~ 9 am to 12 noon at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church  
Teen Training ~ July 5 to 7 ~ 10 am to 12 noon

Go to [cokesburyvbs.com/yorktown](http://cokesburyvbs.com/yorktown) to register

Questions? Contact Tami Seidel (914) 245-2186 ~ [www.FPCYorktown.org](http://www.FPCYorktown.org)

**Adult & Teen Volunteers Still Needed. If interested, use the website above to register to help!**

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

Non-Profit Organization  
 Bulk Rate U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Yorktown Heights, NY 10598  
 Permit No. 20

# The Disciple

June 2017

www.FPCYorktown.org

914-245-2186

office@fpcyorktown.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00-5:00

Co-Pastors

Rev. Chip Low

Rev. Tami Seidel



Facebook.com/fpcyorktown



@fpcyorktown



@fpcyorktown



office@fpcyorktown.org

June				1	2	3
				10:00am Adult Bible Study 7:00pm Disciple FT 7:00pm Choir		
4 <i>Pentecost</i> 8:30 & 10:45am Worship 9:30am Sunday School & Adult Ed	5	6 9:30am Disciple 4	7 9:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle 7:00pm Disciple 4	8 10:00am Adult Bible Study	9	10 9am Food Pantry 5:30pm Progressive Dinner
11 <i>Children's Sunday</i> 10:00am Worship	12 10:00am Knit Togethers	13 9:30am Disciple 4 7:30pm Worship	14	15 10:00am Adult Bible Study	16	17
18 <i>Celebrating Graduates and the Gifts of Men Sunday</i> 10:00am Worship 11:45am Youth Hike to Turkey Mountain	19	20 7:30pm Mission & Operations	21 9:00am Stewardship 10:30am Prayer Shawl 12:00pm Lunch Bunch	22 10:00am Adult Bible Study	23	24 9am Food Pantry 6:00pm Jan Peek Meal
25 10:00am Worship 11:15am Deacons	26 10:00am Knit Togethers	27 7:30pm Education/Communications	28	29	30	July 1