



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

October 2016

DATES TO NOTE:

Oct 9
Atlanta Mission Trip
Review

Oct 15
Jazz Concert

Oct 23
Usher Appreciation
Luncheon

Oct 29
Fall Work Day

October 30
Welcome
New Members

The Disciple



Fruitful

with little with much with all

Apples, pears, grapes and pumpkins – fall is such a fruitful time of year! Did you know that from a botanical perspective, avocados, beans, peapods, corn kernels, cucumbers, grains, nuts, olives, peppers, squash, sunflower seeds and tomatoes are all considered fruits also? This is because they are the part of the plant that develops from the flower and contains the seeds which allow for new plants, new growth, new fruit.

**God blessed them and said to them,
“Be fruitful...”**
~ Genesis 1:28

**My Father is glorified by this,
that you bear much fruit
and become my disciples.**
~John 15:8

Our stewardship theme this year is Fruitful. What does it mean to follow God's command to us in Genesis to be fruitful? What does Jesus mean when he says that the way to glorify God is to be fruitful and become his disciples? What kind of fruit are we supposed to be producing with our words, our actions, our lives? Does the fruit we produce contain the seeds for further growth, faith and new life?

Our stewardship theme invites us to take some steps in our lives and our ministry to reflect on who we are and who we are becoming. But more than just thinking and reflecting, we are called to do something, to live and practice our faith in such a way that our lives produce the fruit of the Spirit.

**The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness,
generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and
self-control.**
~ Galatians 5:22-23

To help us, we are exploring the Five Practices of Fruitful Living outlined in Robert Schnase's book by the same name. These five practices – radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity – ground us in the good news of God's love and new life in Jesus Christ and help us grow into the people and the church that God created and calls us to be. These five practices are essential for living fruitful lives at home, at work, in the community and world.

Writing about the fifth practice, Extravagant Generosity, Robert Schnase says this, “Each step is grace-driven. Each practice trains the heart. God's love insinuates itself deeper into our souls, drawing us toward a life rich in what matters most: faith, hope, and love. At some point, we realize that all that we have and all that we are belong to God. And that leads us to the practice of Extravagant Generosity.”

**They are to do good, to be rich in good
works, generous, and ready to share, ...
so that they may take hold of the life that
really is life.** ~ 1 Timothy 6:18-19

This year, we are invited to live into the practice of Extravagant Generosity with renewed awareness of God's generosity toward us. Our Stewardship Commission, Tami and I

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

invite everyone to practice generosity extravagantly. The Bible calls this **tithing** or **first fruits giving**, setting aside ten percent (10%) of our income as a gift to God. Tithing is far more than just a way for the church to meet its budget. It is a spiritual discipline and practice that invites us to prioritize our lives with God at the center.

Now, we expect that this may be like sticker shock to some people. "I can't do that." "I'm not in a financial place to do that." But, our church has been living toward this for the past few years. We haven't asked you to give to a budget. We've asked you to express your faith in and love for God by increasing your giving, mainly through increasing the percentage of your income you give. It is now time to reach for the goal. As Schnase writes, "Tithing is not merely about what God wants us to do, but about the kind of person God wants us to become...It is a life choice that rearranges all the furniture of our interior lives. That's why we do it."

We obligate ourselves to bring the first fruits of our soil and the first fruits of all fruit of every tree, year by year, to the house of the Lord.

~Nehemiah 10:35

As people of faith and a church, we are reaching toward the goal of a fruitful life. This is defined first and foremost by how we receive God's love and understand that all that we are and all that we have belong to God. We are reaching toward the goal of abundant life rich in what matters most: faith, hope and love. We are reaching toward the goal of becoming who God created and calls us to be, so that our lives and our ministry together may bear much fruit and plant the seeds of love, faith and new life in the world. So, please join us as we grow more fruitful in our lives and share in the life that is truly worth living.

See you in church,

Tami Chip

Sunday School Is For Everyone!

by Jocelyn Ramage

A couple years ago, I was asked if I would be interested in teaching our Sunday School's CONNECT class for children in Grades 5 and 6. I would be sharing the responsibility with two other adults so I would not have to teach every Sunday. I said yes right away for the following reasons:

- the Sunday School needed teachers and I did have some free time to get involved;
- one deepens one's knowledge of the Bible when preparing lessons and teaching them;
- my children were all grown up and I missed being with children.

The Grade 5 and 6 children were allowed to personalize their CONNECT Bibles by drawing in them and underlining passages. They were curious and eager to take turns reading passages to their classmates. They had fun creating weekly craft projects. At the end of each class, everyone looked forward to munching on snacks while viewing the weekly CONNECT DVD about a group of modern day theatre students experiencing events related to the day's lesson in a modern day setting. There were humorous moments in these DVD's which everyone appreciated.

By the end of the Sunday School year, the children and teachers were much more aware of what's in our Bible and friendships were formed. In the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20), Christ sent the disciples out into the world to tell everyone the good news. As disciples of Christ in today's world we are called to continue spreading the good news. Becoming a Sunday School Teacher is one way to spread the good news. I encourage you – yes you, no matter how young or old, even if your children are grown and gone – to consider becoming involved in our Sunday School when you hear that help is needed. Please contact our Church School Superintendents, Michele Mosca and Jessica Mayes for more information.

The Sunday School is so grateful for Jocelyn's dedication to sharing the good news with our young people and sends our good wishes and prayers with Jocelyn and Dave as they move into this new chapter in their lives.



Stewardship Commission

As the weather turns cooler, many of us make plans to go apple-picking. From rows of laden trees, we harvest bags of apples of all varieties and take them home. Some fruit we eat right away, but others we bake into pies, make into apple sauce, squeeze into cider, or chop into salads, which we may savor alone or share with family and friends.

As we enjoy the fruits of the orchard, which sustain us and connect us to others, we are exploring together at church the practices of spiritual fruitfulness. Jesus said, "Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit" (John 15:5). One of the ways that we can "bear much fruit" is by giving, and indeed, fruitfulness is the theme of this year's pledge campaign. Giving connects us to the fruitfulness of the church and, as a spiritual practice, sustains our faith.

So many wonderful things are happening at our church – fruits of all varieties! Mission trips, music, Adult Education, Sunday School, GreenFaith certification, improvements to our facilities, youth groups, outreach to college students and seniors, building a labyrinth. Many of these fruits are flourishing, while others are still sprouting, but all depend upon your generous financial gifts, as well as your time and talents.

You will receive soon more information about making a financial pledge for 2017. We ask that you prayerfully consider how you can share in the fruitfulness of the church and life in Christ by giving generously. We invite you to join us at church as we learn about Five Practices of Fruitful Living, including the practice of "extravagant generosity", which asks us to offer our "first fruits" to God. We encourage you to think about tithing, and how you may be able to make the commitment to give an increased proportion of your income, in recognition of the truth that all we have belongs to God. We rejoice in gratitude for those of you who already are tithing or giving generously, and request your continued support. No matter how much or how little we have, we are all called to give.

Pledges will be dedicated at worship services on Sunday, November 6. From apple-picking to fruitful living to extravagant giving, we look forward to an autumn of exploring all the ways in which we can be faithful stewards of God's bountiful gifts, and "bear much fruit" together.

Jessica Mayes, for Stewardship Commission



Did you know?

If you are over the age of 70½, you may be able to make a tax-free qualified charitable donation from your IRA directly to FPCY in satisfaction of all or part of your required minimum distribution. Contact your financial advisor for more details.

THE TABLE IS SET.

COME TO THE TABLE OF PEACE.



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

The Peace & Global Witness Offering challenges us to look at the world not as a place where conflict is inevitable, but where Christ's peace is possible. In places of abiding conflict, the Peace & Global Witness Offering supports the work of Presbyterian mission co-workers to bring together former enemies and begin healing the spiritual wounds of war.

In congregations closer to home, support from the Offering enables efforts to turn back the tide of gun violence that claims too many American lives. In other communities, it's facilitating a transformative dialogue about the difficult subject of race to find new common ground. And everywhere, this Offering supports witness, because by sharing the abiding love and mercy of Christ, more people can find their way to a seat at God's table.

Our church keeps up to 25% of this important offering to support the Rural and Migrant Ministry. Give on Sunday or scan the code to give online.



The Story of our Labyrinth, in a few easy questions

What is a labyrinth?

From The Labyrinth Society web page: A labyrinth is a single path or unicursal tool for personal, psychological and spiritual transformation. Labyrinths are thought to enhance right brain activity.

Where did labyrinths begin?

Labyrinths have been used for at least 3,500 years. There is evidence of the use of labyrinths in Crete, Scandinavia, Italy and throughout North America.

When did Christians start using labyrinths?

Labyrinths were used in early Christian worship during the Middle Ages. Some sources suggest that people walked labyrinths as an alternative to making a pilgrimage to the Holy Land; other sources say that the purpose of the labyrinth isn't clear.

And today?

Today labyrinths are used in a variety of settings: churches, hospitals, seminaries.

Why did we decide to build a labyrinth?

During the past decade we have invited Lynn Brown, a trained labyrinth facilitator, to come with her canvas labyrinth so that we might experience walking a labyrinth. Many of us found this practice to be calming, centering and fun. A small group of church members got together to see if we might build our own permanent labyrinth. We received a small Challenge to Change grant from the Hudson River Presbytery to get us started. Lynn Brown has helped us as we discerned where the labyrinth should go. After a few "false starts" we found the perfect place for it, and so work began.

How do we expect to use our labyrinth?

We want our labyrinth to be used by our church, our community and anyone who would benefit from walking a labyrinth. We will list it on the world-wide labyrinth locator (<http://labyrinthlocator.com/>). We will use ours as a "prayer labyrinth," as a way of guiding us into prayer and as a tool to help us be open to the presence of God.

What has happened so far?

Many, many volunteers helped clear the ground in the back of the parking lot. Dick Seymour cleared the most stubborn roots with his backhoe. We then put down landscape cloth and topsoil, and Dick seeded the area. During this hot and dry summer we watered the grass. Once the grass came up, we ordered the bricks-about 1,000 of them! Volunteers laid the bricks on the lines that Lynn Brown had laid out for our labyrinth.



What's left to do?

We're now at the "hard part" – digging in the bricks. This involves two different kinds of tasks: digging the trenches and setting the bricks in the dirt. Digging the trenches requires a fair amount of strength; the ground is quite compressed and dry. We've been watering it to loosen it up a bit. Setting the bricks in the dirt requires patience and attention to detail; each brick needs to be placed "just so" and then set firmly into the ground. We are hoping to dedicate our labyrinth this fall, so there's a sense of urgency about the work. We'll be working over the first three Saturdays in October.

If you can join us for either task please let Connie Knapp (connie.knapp@icloud.com) know of your availability.

Walk Away your Worries: an Eco-Theological Reflection

by Connie Knapp

*Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns,
and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?*

And which of you by being anxious can add a single cubit to your life's span?

And why are you anxious about clothing?

*Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin,
yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory did not clothe himself like one of these.*

~ Matthew 6:26-29



Thanks to the hard work of many volunteers, our labyrinth is well on its way to completion, and the closer it gets, the more excited we have become! Our labyrinth is in a beautiful spot at the back of the parking lot. Many hands have gone into clearing the land, laying out the bricks and digging them into the ground. Nearly everyone who has come to work, or to support those who are working, has commented on the space calling it special, calming, meditative and spiritual.

The space does feel special. There's often a gentle breeze that blows through the trees. One day we were working and a bird followed Dick Seymour's backhoe, waiting to eat whatever insects we unearthed. Another day, when Lynn Brown, Anne Corey and I were laying out the design, a butterfly kept us company.

Whenever I walk a labyrinth, I feel calm. Or at least I feel less anxious. This verse from Matthew comes to mind: *And which of you by being anxious can add a single cubit to your life's span?* The Common English Bible translates this verse this way: "Who among you by worrying can add a single moment to your life?"

Worry. Anxiety. These constant companions can distract me from the present and take me away from observing "the birds of the air" and "the lilies of the field." Slowly walking a labyrinth, outdoors, feeling the sun on my face and a breeze at my back I am reminded that God is everywhere. God cares for creation and all that is in it. God cares for me, and you, and the "birds of the air," and the "lilies of the field."

Walking a labyrinth, especially one that is outdoors like ours, invites us to step out of the worry and anxiety that so many of us live in on a daily basis and enter into the beauty and peace of the natural world around us. As we walk, our heart rate slows, our breathing becomes deeper, our minds calm down and focus, we become more aware of our blessings. We are reminded of the fundamental truths of our faith – that God loves us and cares for us and calls us to lives of kindness, justice and peace. What a wonderful way to walk humbly with our God!

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*

~ Micah 6:8



There are two brand-new "No Idling" signs at our front and back entrances. These are to remind all who visit our church that idling is bad for the environment. This is just one small part of our GreenFaith certification process.

Idling is when a driver leaves the engine running and the vehicle parked. Everyday in the U.S. millions of cars and trucks idle needlessly, and an idling car can release as much pollution as a moving car.

Turn off your ignition if you're waiting more than 10 seconds. Contrary to popular belief, restarting your car does not burn more fuel than leaving it idling. In fact, idling for just 10 seconds wastes more gas than restarting the engine.



Operations Commission

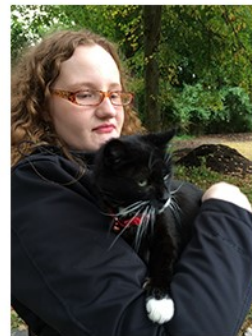
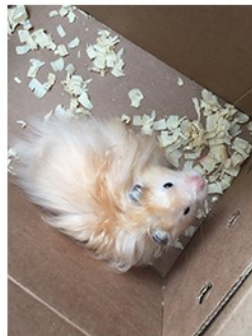


Fall is upon us once again and with it brings preparations for winter. We are having our annual Fall work party on October 29th. Please check the Church's website for work party sign ups or contact Deanna Collins if you would like to help. Many tasks have already been completed including retiling of Fellowship Hall, cleaning out the Iris garden, repaired parking lot light, eviction of our furry ground hog friend in the preschool playground and painting of church offices.

We would like to take a moment to thank Dave Ramage for all of his hard work and dedication to the operations committee and First Presbyterian Church. Dave will be stepping down as co-chairman of the operations commission to move back to his homeland of Canada. We all wish him all the best.



FPCY's Annual Blessing of the Animals



Atlanta Mission Trip

Join us on October 16 for an "Atlanta Mission Trip Recap" when we will get a full report from our volunteers and leaders that became our hands & feet in Atlanta this year.

Midnight Run

We will have a Midnight Run for Youth and Adults on **Friday, November 11**. We need toiletries to fill at least 60, ideally 75 kits. We have very few supplies and need to collect as many as possible by **Sunday, October 23**, when our Youth group will collate them into kits for the Run. We need combs, washcloths, toothbrushes, razors, shaving cream, lip balm and deodorant.

We also have very few clothing items and will start a collection of items in sizes Medium through Extra Large: warm jackets & coats, hats, jeans and sweat pants, sweatshirts and sweaters, blankets, NEW socks and NEW underwear. These we will need by **Sunday, November 6** so that our sorting team can organize the clothing for the Run. Thanks for your help!

The Ministry of Our Deacons

Would that my ears could hear you, Lord -
The calling of your VOICE;
I would haste to do your bidding,
In all your WILL rejoice.
When I listen very quietly
The stirring of my heart
Beckons me oft to go into
this world and do my part.

REFRAIN: If I could only see you,
If my ears could only hear,
I would have no need of doubt,
I would have no need of fear.
I will hear the call of others -
My brethren one and all;
and when I serve them from my heart
I will know I've heard your call.

C. Thorne

*If you want to know what God wants you to do, ask Him, and he will gladly tell you,
for He is always ready to give a beautiful supply of wisdom to all who ask Him.
James 1:5*

I recently found an old notebook of mine in which I had written some reflections. There was no date on the page but it must have been some time ago because I had no recollection of having written them. I share it with you below because I found the message interesting to me and worth passing on.

When I think of God's creation and look around and out into the world, I think of a wonderful puzzle. A great big puzzle made up of many, many pieces – a beautiful colorful puzzle with all kinds of plants, animals, people and activities going on. What happens when YOU are almost finished doing a puzzle and you realize that there is a piece missing? You suddenly realize that ALL of the pieces are important – even that last little one – every piece is necessary to make the puzzle “whole” – complete; All of the people, animals, bugs, plants. Similarly, everything in life is part of God's puzzle – a necessary part and with an important function to play in God's plan. Every piece of God's puzzle has a purpose. The Bible tells us in Romans 12:6 that God has given EACH of us the ability to do CERTAIN things well. Many people find this hard to believe but it is true.

I had been reading an article by Ganga Stone on the power of God's love. Ganga was a volunteer in Manhattan in the early days of the AIDS crisis. She had been bringing meals to a man dying of AIDS. A local Pastor recognized her and asked what she was doing. When she answered he said, “you are not only delivering meals, you are delivering God's love.” And here is where the idea for delivering specialized meals was born - “God's Love We Deliver” has been in operation ever since. You can read more about God's Love We Deliver on line.

What Ganga Stone shows us is:

1. “Each of us can make a difference.” Since our society values professional expertise and training so highly many of us are tempted to think that we cannot make a difference in this world without qualifications. That couldn't be further from the truth!
2. Individuals and small groups can often act when needed when more established organizations can't.
3. You don't have to go out of your way to find opportunities to serve – simply pay attention to the needs of those you already encounter in your daily life. Remember James 1:5.
4. Be willing to care and be encouraged to venture into the unknown trusting that God is there to help.

Ganga Stone tells us by her continued loving service and reminds us by her example that “The decision to serve others is the highest impulse of the heart and the rewards of such service are beyond measure. If you wish to taste this JOY, then just do it. Just take one step.... It doesn't really matter what you do... it only matters that you do it.”

The reason I mention this to you here is that you will soon see that there are opportunities especially for you in our faith community - not only with the Deacons but also many other areas where you can step in and volunteer to give of your unique gifts. There will be opening in the Deacons' many Ministries, on Session, in the Choir, Sunday Church School program and more – endless opportunities for you to join in loving service to show your response to the awesome message of God's love for you, for each one of our Brethren and for all of creation – our ONE whole glorious puzzle!!

Food Pantry Item-of-the-Month

Canned Fruit

Next Dates:
Oct 8 & 22, Nov 5 & 19
9 to 11 am

Church School "Chalkboard"

Another exciting year of Church School is underway! It has been so wonderful to see all of our Church School families, new and returning. Thank you all for coming, and a huge thanks to our wonderful teachers who have gotten this year off to a strong start!

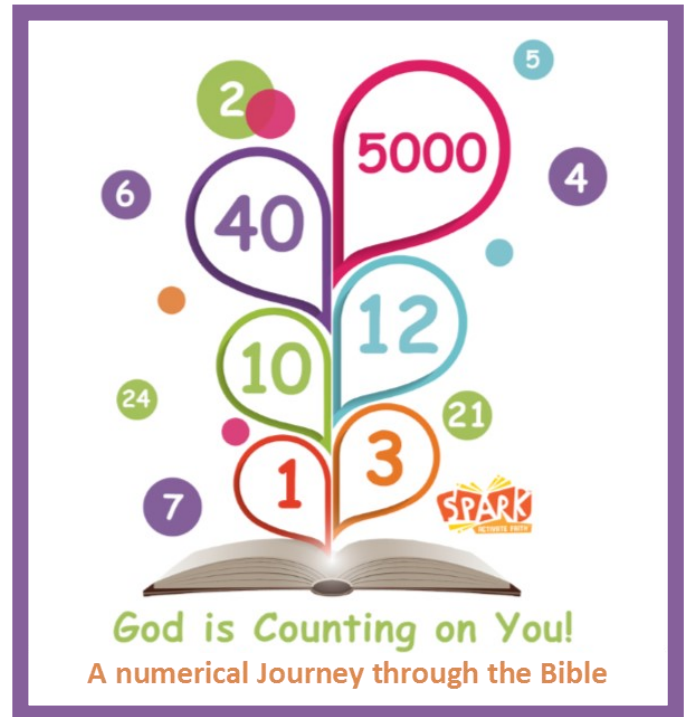
On September 18, we welcomed back all of our students with the Blessing of the Backpacks. As a reminder that "God is Counting on You", all students received a calculator keychain to put on their backpacks. There may have been a bit of confusion among some of the younger students at this piece of ancient technology (no touch screen?), but the message was clear -- "Faith Counts at FPCY!"

At our Gathering Time, Sophie Low and Margaret Gruber are leading the way, with John Winget and Beth Gruber providing musical accompaniment. Among other classic Christian children's songs, the children will be learning a new song by Pete Seeger that's a perfect fit with this year's theme: "When we look and we see/Things are not what they should be/God's counting on me/God's counting on you...."



The first rotation for the Preschool-4th Grade students -- Noah's Ark -- is in full swing. And what better way to learn that story than by a visit from Noah himself!

On September 25, the children received a surprise visit from the Old Testament patriarch, who told them how he built an ark 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high, brought on animals 2 by 2, and then it rained for 40 days and 40 nights, but he always remembered that God is number 1!



Our **Connect** (5th and 6th Grade) and **Re:Form** (7th Grade and Up) groups are meeting, as well -- connecting with new and old friends and teachers, and exploring their faith together. We also have many confirmed youth serving as assistant teachers in the rotation centers - we are very thankful for their help!

If you haven't registered your children yet, it is not too late!

You can register online (scan the link to the right), or feel free to just come on Sunday (and see Michele Mosca or Jessica Mayes for help with the registration process).



Upcoming rotations include "The Widow's Offering" and "Ten Men Healed", so there is lots of learning and fun ahead! Enjoy the autumn weather -- we hope to see you soon!

Peace,

Michele Mosca and Jessica Mayes
Church School Superintendents

Fall Dates to Save

October

10/9 Youth Group

4:30pm—Middle School

6:00pm—High School

10/23 Youth Group

4:30pm—Middle School

6:00pm—High School

November

11/13 Youth Group

4:30pm—Middle School

6:00pm—High School

11/20

Community Thanksgiving
Service at HVICC (evening)

December

12/11 Youth Group

4:30pm—Middle School

6:00pm—High School

12/18 Christmas Caroling

All Youth, time TBD

FPCY YOUTH



Leviticus 19, Matthew 22, Mark 12, Romans 13. These are just some of the chapters from all different parts of the Bible with the same is a recurring mes-

sage: **love God, your neighbor, and yourself.** This year in Youth Group, we are going to work on putting this commandment into practice. We will also take a closer look at the question asked of Jesus in Luke 10:29: Who is my neighbor?

Youth Group meetings will be on the 2nd and 4th Sunday evenings: October 9 and 23 with the Middle School group meeting from 4:30 - 6 and the High School group from 6 - 7:30. Among other activities, we will get started on an exciting "upcycling" project for the new Youth Lounge (room 4); we'll make soup for our congregation's Midnight Run in November; and we just might practice some random acts of kindness. We also will get to hear about how our mission group practiced loving our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness in New York City on the 24 Hour Mission Trip to Broadway Presbyterian Church.

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

Dear Church Family,

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

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

We meet on Sundays from 4:30-6:00pm to discuss a chapter and support one another in parenting our children and youth on their journey of faith.

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

Chip



24-Hour Mission Trip to NYC



'Jazz Club' Cabaret Saturday Night, October 15th, 7:30pm

Come enjoy the mellow tones of jazz cabaret singer Glenda Davenport and the Hiroshi Yamazaki Trio on Saturday, October 15th at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. You will be treated to an intimate, cozy cabaret feel, with small tables, candlelight and refreshments. Dancing is permitted! Ensure a table, and make your reservations early online, or call the office (914) 245-2186. Glenda is well-known in the tri-state area as a popular

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

Messiah and More!

On Saturday evening, December 3rd, the Annual Christmas Concert featuring the Christmas portion of Handel's *Messiah* will be performed under the direction of Simona Frenkel with professional soloists and chamber orchestra. Save the date on your calendar for this popular musical event that joyfully welcomes in the season of Advent!

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



Become a Patron
Scan to Make a Donation



USHER Appreciation Luncheon

The Worship Design Commission wants to take a moment to say "Thank you" to our Usher Teams and Subs.

When: Sunday, October 23rd after the 10:45 AM service
Where: Fellowship Hall
Who: All Usher teams and Usher substitutes

A light, catered lunch will be served. We will take this time together to review best practices, collect feedback and celebrate the growing Usher Ministry.

Please RSVP to Karen Gerth.
 email: karensgerth@gmail.com
 phone: 914-318-6429

Knitting Groups



Prayer Shawl Group will meet next on October 5th at 9:30 am and again on the 19th at 10:30am. Anyone who would like to join us in knitting is most welcome. In addition to the regular knitters who come on Wednesdays, we have at least seven off site knitters. Any questions please call Marianna Sherman at 914-737-8294 or Fran Schiel at 914-245-5396.

The Knit Togethers will meet on October 10 & 24 and November 14 & 28, 2016. We are busy knitting hats and mittens, lap blankets, baby blankets, and scarves for our December community giving. At our meetings we enjoy trading patterns and viewing everyone's progress on projects. All who knit or crochet are welcome to join us. Our meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 10:00am to 11:30am in the Lounge/Rm 15. Contacts: Noreen Radke (962-4370 or radke30@msn.com) or Lois Ostling (962-2809).

Lunch Bunch

Fun stuff will be happening the 3rd Wednesday of the month in October. Since we'll be meeting the week after Columbus Day, can we all be a little Italian and bring an Italian Dish? Join us on **October 19th**.

November will be a catered Thanksgiving Feast on Wednesday **November 16** at a cost of \$18 per person. Reservations and money need to be in by November 1st. Special entertainment is being planned.

Our December Christmas party will be catered this year in the church Fellowship Hall on **December 21**.

Mark your calendars and plan to come. More information will be available as time gets nearer, but plan on having a good time!

Dates to Save: October 19, November 16 and December 21

Noon Time Meal

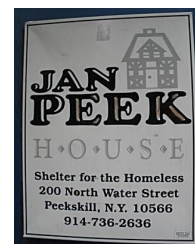


Many hands make light work, so if you can scrub carrots, potatoes, chop ham or celery, we can use you. A special thanks to Nancy Paskin who donated a brand new food processor to help make our chopping easier!

We meet each month at the Peekskill Presbyterian church (705 South Street, Peekskill—use the kitchen entrance off of Washington St), and in just 1-1.5 hours prepare a meal that the Salvation Army will serve to nearly 50 people the following day.

Our next dates will be on Tuesday, October 11th and November 8th at 2:15 PM. Please feel free to come and share in what is always a lively and worthwhile endeavor. For more information, contact Pat Prauda at 914-737-4674.

Jan Peek Meal



A thank you to the Wax and Marsh families for preparing and serving the September meal for the Jan Peek clients. Vinny and Amy Wallace and Barbara Humphrey have volunteered for our October date.

December 24th is still open. If a few families can get together and prepare a meal, we will get it to them.

The 2017 calendar is up in the Gathering Space. Three months have been filled, but there are many opportunities left to get involved, so sign up today!

~Pat Prauda, 737-4674 or e-mail ppladyofscotland@aol.com

Check it Out! New in the Church Library:

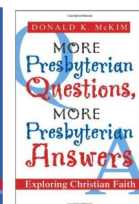
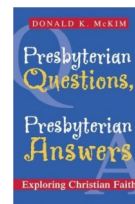
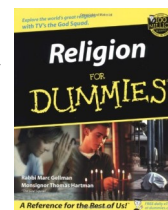
In the Church Library you can study the Bible, improve your spiritual life, learn about social issues, and many other topics. But sometimes you might just want to answer a specific question or learn about a topic quickly. Here are three new titles that could help:

--**Religion for Dummies** by Rabbi Marc Gellman and Monsignor Thomas Hartman (200 G). This book has brief overviews of religious beliefs, rituals, and ethics for major world religions, as well as descriptions of holy books, people, places, days, etc. Best of all (from a librarian's point of view), there is a detailed index.

--**Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers; Exploring Christian Faith** by Donald K. McKim (285 W) consists of answers to 92 questions about Presbyterians. For example, question #16 is "Can we prove that God exists?" Question #60 is "Why don't Presbyterian churches have altars?" Designed for group or individual study, it can also be a reference source.

--**More Presbyterian Questions, More Presbyterian Answers** (285 W). Donald McKim has more questions to be answered. This volume is mostly about theology, worship, and selected social/ethical issues.

Look for these and other recent additions to the library on the "New Book Shelf."
Carol Jensen, Church Librarian



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The Disciple

October 2016

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2 Blessing of the Animals 8:30am & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Adult Ed, Confirmation, Sunday School 12:00pm Youth Bells, Cong. Life Green Team 2:00pm Blessing of the Animals 3:30pm 24-Hour Mission Trip 4:30pm Almost Christian Study	3 7:30pm Worship	4 9:30am Disciple 4 7:30pm Session	5 9:30am Prayer Shawl 10:30am Women's Circle 7:00pm Disciple 4	6 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Disciple FT 8:00pm Choir	7	8 9am Food Pantry, Labyrinth Work Day
9 8:30am & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Adult Ed, Confirmation, New Members, Sunday School 12:00pm Youth Bells 4:30pm MS Youth Group 6:00pm HS Youth Group	10 Columbus Day <i>Office Closed</i> 10am Knit Togethers 7:00pm Sunday School	11 2:30pm Noontime Meal Prep	12	13 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Disciple FT 8:00pm Choir	14	15 9am Labyrinth Work Day 7:30pm Jazz Concert
16 Atlanta Mission Trip Review 8:30am & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Adult Ed, Confirmation, New Members, Sunday School 12:00pm Youth Bells, Deacons 4:30pm Almost Christian Study	17	18 9:30am Disciple 4 7:30pm Mission Operations	19 9am Stewardship 9:30am Prayer Shawl 12pm Lunch Bunch (all invited) 7:00pm Disciple 4	20 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Disciple FT 8:00pm Choir	21 7:30pm Confirmation to Temple Beth Am	22 9:00am Food Pantry, Labyrinth Work Day 6pm Jan Peek Meal
23 8:30am & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Adult Ed, Confirmation, New Members, Sunday School 12:00pm Youth Bells Usher Appreciation 4:30pm MS Youth/Almost Christian 6:00pm HS Youth Group	24 10am Knit Togethers	25 9:30am Disciple 4 7:30pm Communication Education	26 7:00pm Disciple 4	27 10:00am Bible Study 6:45pm Bells 7:00pm Disciple FT 8:00pm Choir	28	29 8:30am Fall Clean-Up 9am Food Pantry
30 Welcome New Members 8:30am & 10:45am Worship Services 9:30am Adult Ed, Confirmation, New Members, Sunday School 4:30pm Almost Christian Study	31	<div>October</div>				