



Welcome ~~Back~~ Sunday

Among the many amazing and powerful traditions that are a part of the life of Rye Presbyterian Church, I have long protested the name “Welcome Back Sunday” when referring to the first Sunday after Labor Day. Despite my own enjoyment of the quieter summer months here without evenings full of meetings, I cannot endorse the idea that worship is not a part of life during the summer. Yet, the practice of a summer absence that merits a “welcome back” remains a part of life here, though less so, especially now that the sanctuary is air-conditioned and summer church school is in session.

But the name has proved resilient. “Rally Day,” which many other churches call the Sunday in question, has never been used here to my knowledge, and sounds a bit more like a NASCAR event rather than a way to talk about worship and a picnic. It, too, carries the connotation that come September we all need rallying from our pagan summer ways. “Kick Off Sunday,” as we tried at one time, connected our life together as a church a bit too closely to the NFL season. So we’ve settled for “Fall Festival Sunday.” “Meh.” as they say. It’s OK. I remain open to better ideas.

So here is one. What about just calling it “Welcome Sunday.” Yes, of course we welcome any and all of the 1,150 members of this church to come and be a part of the festivities of that morning: worship outside under the tent, a brass quartet, the start of Fall Sunday School for children, and a day where “communion” in worship extends into communion over a wonderful lunch together, complete with a visit from the ice cream truck.

But beyond being welcome, how about we make it a day where we extend a welcome to others in the community? New families have moved into your neighborhoods throughout the summer – invite them to church! Older friends have expressed curiosity about that church you go to... invite them! What better day to do so? What better way to live out our calling to be ambassadors of the faith, and to love our neighbors as ourselves?

Brothers and sisters, welcome (back) ... and welcome!



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Imagine, Prison Ministry, Stephen Ministry

Imagine ... Becoming Reality

The Imagine Initiative continues to bear fruit! This summer, our friends from the Community Synagogue have felt right at home as they worship in our remodeled Chapel on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings.

In addition, the Imagine Initiative helped support a second August trip through which the mission of RPC was extended once again to the people of New Orleans. John and Heather Miller led a team of nine youth that worked Monday on finishing that painting of a house that our June group had primed. Tuesday – Thursday the group worked scraping and priming a house belonging to Mrs. Jones. It was again a confirmation of how life-changing these trips can be. Our gifts to Imagine have not only helped to reshape buildings (manses, our church building, homes in New Orleans) but are also helping to transform lives! Thank you!



In addition, working with former RPC member and interior designer Donna Parratt, the trustees have been hard at work on remodeling the church library. The floor is being repaired from some old termite damage; the carpet is being replaced; and new paint and upholstery are on the way!

Planning for next year, the trustees have begun exploring ways to reconfigure the church office space to accommodate our staff and increase our storage.

Thank you for your generous support of the Imagine Initiative!

stephen
MINISTRY

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A STEPHEN MINISTRY CHURCH

The last sentence of our weekly worship bulletin reads “We are a Stephen Ministry Church.” What does that mean? In the book of Acts, chapter 6, Stephen was chosen to provide caring ministry to those in need.

Since the time of the Apostles, caring ministry has been considered a hallmark of the Christian faith community. Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.

For more information, contact SM Awareness Coordinator Carol Love at: 914-536-9893 or cloveny@optonline.net, or one of the RPC clergy.

PRISON MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



The reach of RPC's prison ministry continues to expand. Last year over 70 congregants participated in the Coming Home program by joining with formerly incarcerated people (“returning citizens”) for dinner and sharing on Thursday evenings.



Coming Home: It is our hope to re-launch Coming Home in January. Members are encouraged to participate in the Thursday evening dinners and, for a deeper engagement, to become a mentor to one of the men or women who are participants in the program. For more details about the program, contact Dr. Miller (jmiller@ryepc.com).

Rye Writes: In the next couple of months, we expect to launch an even more inclusive program—“**RYE WRITES**”—enabling congregants and others to begin exchanging letters with men and women in prison, many of whom never get a visit or correspondence from the outside. Inmate participants will be carefully selected to ensure they are living positive lives while incarcerated and procedures will be put in place so Rye Writers will remain anonymous to them. Click [here](#) for details of how Rye Writes will work.

Anyone interested in becoming a Rye Writer may contact Heather Miller (hitchcockschool@verizon.net), who will coordinate the program and be the official “Post Mistress” or Bob (bsteed55@aol.com) or Nancy (steedheart@aol.com) Steed. This will be an easy way to become part of RPC's prison ministry on your own schedule at your own pace and without any of the bureaucratic entanglements that come with the prison system. We'd love to hear from you!

Prison Visitation: People who have become volunteers through the Department of Corrections procedures will continue to meet monthly with men at Sing Sing and Fishkill prisons. Though the prison says “we can't have more people in Sing Sing,” we have the ability to bring in several additional volunteers at Fishkill (near Beacon, NY). We meet the 2nd Sunday of each month, leaving from RPC soon after worship and returning about 4:15 p.m. It is an extremely enriching experience and well worth the multiple forms one needs to complete to become a volunteer. Anyone interested should contact Bob or Nancy Steed at the email addresses noted earlier in this article.

Prison ministry continues to become deeply engrained in RPC's culture and we hope that many more individuals will be able to become part of this life-changing and life-giving experience.

Fall Adult Education

Sunday Morning Offerings

9:00 a.m., Westminster Room

Faith and Forgiveness: Sundays, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1

At the heart of the New Testament is forgiveness and reconciliation, a holy living manifested in the love of God through Jesus Christ. Yet Clarence Jordan once remarked, "We'll worship the hind legs off Jesus, then not lift a finger to do a single thing he says." Is this the case for Christians in the hard area of forgiveness? This three-week course will explore the forgiveness.

Sept. 17 – Forgiveness is God's Purpose

Sept. 24 – Why Should We Forgive?

Oct. 1 – Becoming Forgiving People

CREDO: What We Believe:

Sundays, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19

Many adults in the church today did not have the benefit of going through a confirmation class as our youth do today. This five-week course will invite the adults in our church to explore some of the same topics that our youth explore during confirmation. Each Sunday will be a stand-alone session. Topics included:

Oct. 22 – How do you get to heaven?

Oct. 29 – 500 years of Reformation / Nov. 5 – Christology

Nov. 12 – Theodicy - When Bad Things Happen

Nov. 19 – Your Credo

Coping With Christmas: Sundays, Dec. 3, 10, 17

This three-session class will offer ways of coping with some of the issues that can arise around the holidays.

Dec. 3 – Using Mindfulness to reduce Stress

Dec. 10 – Exploring Family Dynamics

Dec. 17 – Understanding and Explaining the Birth Narratives of Jesus

Fall Book Study



THE BOOK OF FORGIVING

Mondays evenings

Oct. 16, 23, 30; Nov. 6, 13

(no meeting Oct. 8—Columbus Day)

7:30 p.m., Library

This five-week study will explore Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu's book, *The Book of Forgiving*. Each of us has a deep need to forgive and to be forgiven. After much reflection on the process of forgiveness, Tutu has seen that there are four important steps to healing: Admitting the wrong and acknowledging the harm; Telling one's story and witnessing the anguish; Asking for forgiveness and granting forgiveness; and renewing or releasing the relationship. This book is both a touchstone and a tool, offering Tutu's wise advice and showing the way to experience forgiveness. Dan Love will facilitate this study. Click [here](#) if you plan to attend so he can order books.

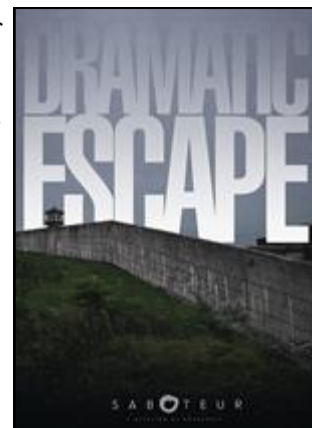
Special Event

Film Viewing:

DRAMATIC ESCAPE

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.

This 90-minute film that transports viewers into the lives of some maximum security prisoners who are attempting to mount a stage production of *A Few Good Men* as part of the Rehabilitation Through the Arts program at Sing Sing Correctional Facility in Ossining. Through creative expression in theater, dance, voice, writing, and visual art, the RTA program gives the men the opportunity to learn social and cognitive skills that act as a springboard to education, family reconciliation, and, ultimately, successful re-integration into community life. *Dramatic Escape* gives viewers an intimate look at this process as it traces their steps from auditions through their curtain call. Along the way, the men reveal their personal stories, their everyday struggles, and contemplate whether redemption is possible.



Special Event

Meet the new Superintendent of Rye City Schools

Dr. Eric Byrne

Sunday, October 15, 9:00 a.m.

Westminster Room



Come and hear from Dr. Eric Byrne, the new Superintendent for Rye City Schools. Dr. Byrne comes to Rye having most recently served as the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction with the Chappaqua School District.

Dr. Byrne has 23 years experience in public education including four years as the principal of Chappaqua's Roaring Brook Elementary School. He began his career in education as a science teacher in New York City. He received a doctorate and a master's degree in education from Fordham University and a bachelor of arts degree in natural science, also from Fordham.

APNC Update, Women's Cancer Support Group, 3 Ts, New Members

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee Update

The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) has continued its work throughout the summer. Since the last update, many applicants have been reviewed, several have completed various stages of the interview process, and the committee continues to seek additional qualified candidates for consideration. The members of the APNC remained focused on the discernment process and continue to ask for God's grace and the prayers of the congregation while patiently seeking the ideal candidate.



A small, caring, and uplifting community of women cancer patients, caregivers, and survivors continues to meet monthly and would welcome others to join in their journey as they seek the comfort of understanding peers and a loving God.

If you are interested in joining, please contact:

Becky Ruegger (rhruegger@aol.com)
or at 914-282-7733

The day and time of meeting is determined by the group.

3 Ts—THE THIRD TUESDAY AT TEN

Walk past the library of our Church on the third Tuesday of the month at ten a.m. and you will hear laughter, cheering, clapping, and "silence." All this is from a group of 18 to 25 interested and interesting members and friends of RPC.

Each month we discuss a topic such as forgiveness, humor, trust, prayer, family, and many more. Thoughtful discussion follows using guidelines established by the group that includes non-judgement, acceptance, and confidentiality.

The group is led by Nancy Steed and Jane Mickatavage and is open to all the church congregation and their friends.

Topic suggestions mainly come from the group's interests and questions evolved from group discussions. Participation is very helpful in meaningful discussion.

Please come and join us. Ask a neighbor or friend also.

For further information, please contact:

Nancy Steed steedheart@aol.com

Jane Mickatavage
swingramm@aol.com

3Ts

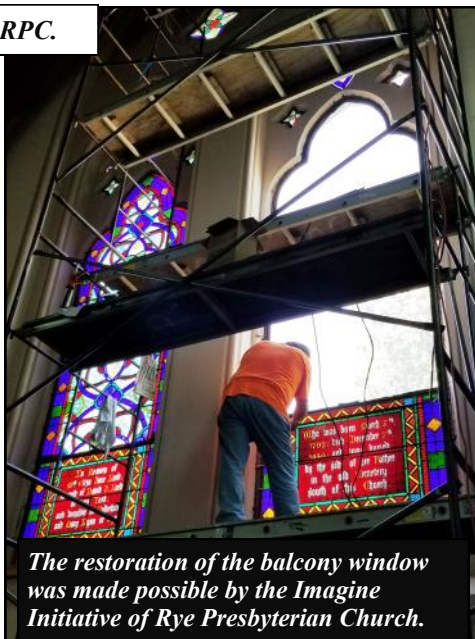
New Member Orientation

Perhaps you've been coming to RPC a long time, or perhaps you are brand new to the area. Either way, if you've thought about officially joining in the life and ministry of RPC, October is the time! All those who are interested in becoming a member of the Rye Presbyterian Church are invited to take part in the New Member classes. They will be held on Sundays, October 15 and 22, in the church Library immediately following worship. Childcare will be available. In the classes, we will explore what it means to be a Presbyterian in general, and what it means to actively live out the faith together as a part of this particular church. In addition to the Sunday classes, there will be a dessert meeting with the leadership of the church on Sunday evening, November 5, at 7:00 p.m. This will be a time to meet the officers of the church and for the Session to approve the new class for church membership. Public welcome and recognition of the new members will take place during 10:00 a.m. worship on Sunday, November 12.

Please email Peggy Berretta (pberretta@ryepc.com), or call 914-967-0842 x10, if you are interested.

**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

The restored balcony window returns to RPC.



The restoration of the balcony window was made possible by the Imagine Initiative of Rye Presbyterian Church.



Christian Education, Confirmation, NOLA

Sunday School

Sunday School kicks off on September 10. The Season of Creation is observed during this month. These sessions will focus on weekly themes highlighting the beauty of our world. Children will be listening to the voices of Forest, Land, Wilderness, and Rivers. The children will hear many fun, adventurous stories!

We are excited about the year ahead, but we still need teachers! Teaching is done in teams, so you have a lot of support and typically only teach once a month. All lessons are fully prepared for you, so your only prep work is to read the lesson beforehand. We would love for you to volunteer! If interested, or if you have any questions, please contact [Nancy Lavelle](#).

On September 3, there will be no Sunday School. Children will remain in worship with their families.

On September 24, the children will join Lisa Rawson for Singing Our Faith.

Teen Assistant Teachers Needed in Church School

If your high school-aged child would like to be a teen assistant teacher, please have him/her email [Nancy Lavelle](#). It is a fun way to earn community service hours that are required for graduation and the little kids adore having the teens in class!

Sunday School Registration

Please fill out a registration form for all children attending our Sunday School—from crib/toddler room all the way

through 8th grade. The registration form is online ([click here](#)). Advance registration is extremely appreciated!!



We are happy to announce that we will be hosting a Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now) packaging event on Sunday, October 1. More information about this event will be coming! Please mark your calendars.

Middle School Connection

Connection, RPC's Middle School Youth Group, kicks off the school year with our annual Pool Party at the home of Susan and Henry Skelsey (9 Sunset Lane in Rye). Mark your calendars for September 20!

After that, our regular meetings will resume in October on the first and third Wednesday of the month. Hope to see your Middle Schooler there.

Please let [Dan Love](#) know if you'd like to be on the email list.

High School Youth Group

The High School Youth Group will meet on Sunday evening, September 17, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Miller Manse, 890 Boston Post Road (next door to the church). The evening will include dinner and then a time of brainstorming and planning for our fall activities. All high school youth are invited and encouraged to join us!

If you have questions, please contact [Pastor Miller](#).

Confirmation 2018

If God is so good... why do bad things happen? What do all those weird stories in the Bible have to do with me? How does science fit with what is taught in church? Is God even real?

This month, the confirmation class of 2018 will begin its exploration of these questions and many more — questions that lie at the heart of our faith journeys. To begin the year, following worship on Sunday, September 17, there will be an Orientation Meeting for those considering Confirmation and their parents in Crawford Chapel. Not every ninth grader may be asking these questions or eager to take on extra work as high school begins. Yet this is a unique opportunity to explore the life of faith more deeply. All ninth graders and a parent are encouraged to come to the orientation regardless of eagerness, willingness, doubts, or questions!

Again this year, the class will meet throughout the year, and will be active in many aspects of the church, including the traditional duty as Sunday crucifer.

This year we'll start our time together as a class with a pizza dinner at the church on Sunday, September 24, at 5:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room.

If you are a ninth grader or have a child who is in ninth grade, and have not received information regarding Confirmation, or if you have any questions, please contact [Mr. Love](#).

Confirmation



NOLA 2017

Between both June and August, RPC commissioned 35 of its high school youth, along with seven chaperones, to travel to New Orleans on youth mission trips. For the

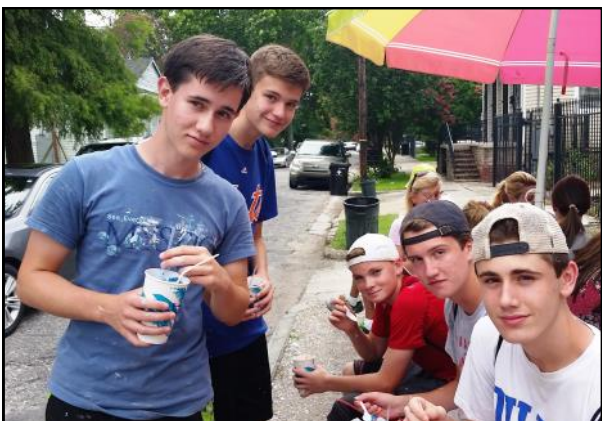
first time ever, we sent two groups — thanks to the generous support of the congregation through the Imagine Initiative, as well as the Women's Association, the Mission & Outreach committee, and a few generous angel investors. On both trips we partnered with Rebuilding Together, a terrific group that focuses on home improvements for the elderly, the disabled, and veterans. In June, we worked all together on a house in the Irish Channel neighborhood, doing a huge amount of prep work

on the exterior. To the amazement of the Rebuilding site coordinators, we managed to prime the entire house! The August trip was able to go back to the same house that the June trip had primed, and helped to finish painting it. The August group then moved to another home where we were once again involved in prepping and priming the exterior of the home of Mrs. Jones.

We worked hard, and we played hard — with tours of the WWII Museum, the Katrina Museum, beignets in the French Quarter, great evenings at Rock'n'Bowl, and in August, an air-boat swamp tour!

In addition to the support and prayers of the church, we particularly thank our non-staff chaperones this year — Heather Miller (who went on both trips!), Charlotte Miller, and Margaret and Jonathan Blum — all gave generously of their summer to be a part of the trips. Thank you!

Youth Mission Trips—New Orleans 2017





The August NOLA Youth Mission Trip was made possible in part by the Imagine Initiative of Rye Presbyterian Church.

Imagine

Musical Notes



From Jason Charneski

Join One of the Choirs

A new program year is the right time for you – young or more mature – to join one of RPC's choirs. Information about the Chancel Choir is printed on the next page of this newsletter; please contact me (jcharneski@ryepc.com) with your questions.

The Children's Choir and the Youth Choir, both directed by Lisa Rawson, would be made all the more wonderful with additional voices and spirits!

Please contact Lisa (lrawson@ryepc.com) about these opportunities for children (grades 1-6) and youth (grades 7-12).

2017-2018 Offerings of Magnificent Music in Concerts and in Worship

Please see the flyer (elsewhere in this newsletter and posted on the church's website) or take a hard-copy of the brochure (in the information racks throughout the building) for information about the magnificent music to be presented in concerts and in worship this 2017-2018 season. Many of these events are made possible through seed money from the Imagine Initiative.

The first program, a concert of music for organ and percussion, will be given on Sunday, October 22, beginning at 4:00 p.m. Clive Driskill-Smith, organist of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford (U.K.), and Joseph Gramley, professor of percussion at the University of Michigan, will raise the roof with their arrange-

ments of movements from *The Planets* (Gustav Holst) and *Carnival of the Animals* (Camille Saint-Saëns). This is a great event for all ages. Beyond the monies from the Imagine Initiative, this concert is made possible by a gift from the Centennial Millennium Fund of the New York City Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) and from the AGO's Westchester County Chapter.

Tonal Refinement of and Repairs to the Chancel Organ

Technicians from Casavant Frères spent four full days in August making adjustments to, refining the voicing of, and repairing a small numbers of pipes in the chancel organ. Specific work included regulation of some pipes (to achieve a consistent level of volume from pipe to pipe), reducing the volume and tempering the *ictus* (initial speech) of some partial and complete ranks of pipes to enable more flexibility and smoother *crescendi* (increases in volume) and *diminuendi* (decreases in volume), and repair of and raising the wind pressure on the five pipes at the lowest pitch level available on the instrument (the 32' Soubasse – think about continuing down the piano from its first key [low A] to what would be its next low C – the pipes that produce the sounds you hear AND feel!) in order to restore a level of *gravitas* that has been missing for many years.

This work, coupled to the upgrade last summer of the organ's operating system, provides RPC with a world-class, 21st-century instrument that fulfills well its primary purpose: supporting, leading, and lending color to our singing.

Jason



Rye Presbyterian Children's Choir

Invites all children in **grades 1-6** to join us for the 2017-2018 school year!

- * Rehearsals will be held **Thursdays** from 3:45-4:30 p.m. in the Choir Room at Rye Presbyterian Church.
- * Rehearsals begin September 14, 2017.
- * The choir sings monthly in church services, special holiday services, and the annual Christmas Pageant.

For more information, please contact:

Lisa Rawson, Director
lrawson@ryepc.com

Rye Presbyterian Youth Choir



Invites all youth in **grades 7-12** to join us for the 2017-2018 school year!

- * Rehearsals will be held **Sundays** after worship, in the Chapel, at Rye Presbyterian Church.
- * Rehearsal dates TBD based on youth schedules.

For more information, please contact:

Lisa Rawson, Director
lrawson@ryepc.com



JOIN THE RPC CHANCEL CHOIR

RPC's music ministry thrives because many volunteers contribute their time and talent.

Might you have interest in singing in the Chancel Choir?

If so, please read on!

- The Chancel Choir, open to anyone who is a high school junior or older, sings each Sunday of the program year (mid-September through mid-June) and in services on Christmas Eve and Maundy Thursday.
- **September 17** is the first Sunday of the program year on which the choir will lift its voice in worship.
- The usual Sunday schedule begins with warm-up at 9:15 a.m., continues with singing in the 10:00 a.m. service, and concludes with a one-hour rehearsal following that service (there is time to enjoy a bit of coffee hour). There will not be a post-service rehearsal on the first Sunday of the month (save for December).
- There will be more rehearsals on Thursday evenings (7:30 – 9:00 p.m.) this year than in years past. These provide opportunities to join for those who cannot attend the usual Sunday post-service rehearsal on a regular basis and allow for more substantive rehearsal time.
- Ability to read music makes for ease of progress; but, those who do not yet know the “language” of music, yet are able to match and maintain pitch, are most welcome to join.
- Section leaders (professional musicians) assist and help to inspire all singers.

Jason Charneski, Director of Music and Organist, is pleased to answer your questions. Please speak with him in person, call him at 967-0842, ext. 16, or send him an e-mail:

jcharneski@ryepc.com.

Rye Presbyterian Church

**Sunday, October 22
4:00 p.m.**

Organized Rhythm

Clive Driskill-Smith, organist;
Joseph Gramley, percussionist

Organized Rhythm opens this season of magnificent music with a concert of roof-raising, floor-shaking arrangements of *The Planets* (Holst) and *Carnival of the Animals* (Saint-Saëns), along with other familiar and new works. All ages will enjoy this feast for the eyes and the ears.



Organized Rhythm's performance at RPC is made possible in part by a grant from the Centennial Millennium Fund of the New York City Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) and a gift from the Guild's Westchester County Chapter.

**Sunday, December 10
10:00 a.m.**

Rutter: Magnificat

The tradition of Cantata Sunday continues as the RPC Chancel Choir and soloists, accompanied by an orchestra, present within worship John Rutter's setting of Mary's song of praise, the Magnificat. In addition, the orchestra will play movements from the *Orchestral Suite No. 3* of J. S. Bach.



**Sunday, April 22
10:00 a.m.**

Jazz Sunday: Celebrate Earth!

RPC's Chancel and Youth choirs join forces with a jazz combo to present within worship portions of Paul Winter's *Missa Gaia* (Earth Mass). From its opening chorus, using words by Saint Francis of Assisi (Brother Sun, Sister Moon) alongside the hymn, For the Beauty of the Earth, to the songs of whales and the cries of seal pups, it celebrates this orb we call Home.



Rye Presbyterian Church
882 Boston Post Rd., Rye, NY 10580
www.ryepc.com 914-967-0842

These offerings of magnificent music are made possible in part by the Imagine Initiative of Rye Presbyterian Church.

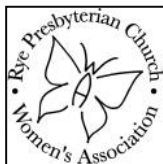
Imagine

Women's Association, Women's Discipleship Group

Calling the Talented

Women of RPC!

Monday, September 11,
9:00 a.m., Library



The RPC Women's Association will hold its first fall meeting on Monday, September 11, from 9-10 a.m. in the Westminster Room.

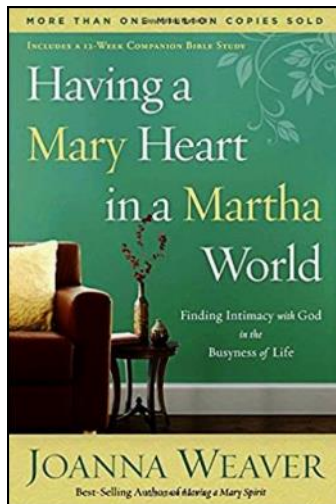
All are welcome!

We will begin planning activities for the year, update you on thrift shop opportunities and bring you up-to-date on events our grant recipients might be hosting.

If you cannot attend the meeting, but would like to be involved, please email [Suzanne Davies](#), with any suggestions you might have. Please also email if an evening meeting would work better for you. We would love to see lots of new faces this year!

Women's Discipleship Group

Tuesdays, beginning September 12, 1:00-2:30 p.m., RPC Library



We are starting a new 12-week video study this fall: Joanna Weaver's *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World: Finding Intimacy with God in the Busyness of Life*, beginning on Tuesday, September 12.

The life of a woman today isn't really all that different from that of Mary and Martha in the New Testament. Like Mary, you long to sit at the Lord's feet... but the daily demands of a busy world just won't leave you alone. Like Martha, you love Jesus and really want to serve him...yet you struggle with weariness, resentment, and feelings of inadequacy.

Then comes Jesus, right into the midst of your busy Mary/Martha life – and he extends the same invitation he issued long ago to the two sisters of Bethany. Tenderly he invites you to choose “the better part” – a joyful life of “living-room” intimacy with him that flows naturally into “kitchen service” for him.

With her fresh approach to the familiar Bible story, Joanna Weaver shows how all of us — Marys and Marthas alike — can draw closer to our Lord: deepening our devotion, strengthening our service, and doing both with less stress and greater joy.

Books are available through [Amazon](#).

For further information, contact [Alicia Baldwin](#).



The Thrift Shop Ladies Annual Luncheon...

The Thrift Shop ladies' end-of-the-year luncheon was hosted by jewelry queen and painter, Sally Tobin.

A wonderful time was had by all.



Reopens September 14
10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.



Sundays in September, Bible Study

Sunday, September 3

- 8:30 a.m.** Holy Communion in the Chapel
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship & Communion in the Sanctuary
 No Sunday School – Family Worship

Sunday, September 10

No 8:30 a.m. service today!

- 9:40 a.m.** Prayer Gathering / Library
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship & Communion under the Tent
 on the Great Lawn
 Sunday School
 -Children attend worship through children's message.
11:00 a.m. Fall Festival and Picnic / Great Lawn

Saturday, September 16

- 5:00 p.m.** Evening Worship & Communion in the Chapel

Sunday, September 17

- 8:30 a.m.** Holy Communion in the Chapel
8:40 a.m. Prayer Gathering / Library
9:00 a.m. Adult Education / Westminster Room
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship in the Sanctuary
 -Children attend worship through children's message.
11:15 a.m. Confirmants & Families Orientation / Chapel
6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group / Miller Manse
8:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study / Library

Saturday, September 23

- 5:00 p.m.** Evening Worship and Blessing of the Animals
 in the Chapel

Sunday, September 24

- 8:30 a.m.** Holy Communion in the Chapel
8:40 a.m. Prayer Gathering / Library
9:00 a.m. Adult Education / Westminster Room
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship in the Sanctuary
 Sunday School
 -Children attend worship through children's message.
5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class Pizza Dinner / Westminster Room
6:00 p.m. Coming Home Reunion / Westminster Room

Saturday Service at 5 - Returns on September 16

- 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays in the RPC Chapel
- 45 minutes in length
- The same sermon as on Sunday
- Usually Communion is celebrated
- Dress is casual, and children are welcome!



Sunday Chancel Flowers



Each week beautiful flowers adorn our sanctuary and provide an uplifting reminder of the goodness of God. Please consider honoring the memory of a loved one or recognizing a special occasion by donating \$60 for the chancel flowers. Your donation will be noted in the church bulletin. To make arrangements, please contact Denise LeVan (dlevan@rvepc.com).

BIBLE STUDIES

Men's Bible Study

**Sunday September 17,
at 8:00 p.m. in the Library**

If you've been thinking about joining in on this time of figuring out how the bible speaks to us about life and faith, it's a great time to join this twice monthly gathering of men. We are working our way through the Psalms—a rich mine of honest reflection on life and the life of faith.

If you'd like to be on the email reminder list for this gathering, please contact [Rev. Love](#).

Wednesday Morning Bible Discussion

Beginning on September 6, the Wednesday Bible Discussion group will resume work on the most well-known stories of the Old Testament, picking up with the story of Joseph and then the stories of the Exodus. We meet in the library at 10:00 a.m. every other Wednesday.

To get on the email reminder list, contact [Dan Love](#).

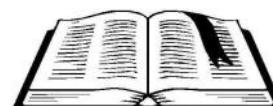
Women's Bible Study

Will reconvene in October.

Meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Library.

A warm welcome and hot coffee await!

For further information, contact [Cynthia De Santis](#).



RPC FALL FESTIVAL



**SPECIAL WORSHIP
& PICNIC
Sunday,
September 10,
10:00 a.m.**

**We will worship outside (weather permitting)
under the tent on the Great Lawn.**

Dress casually as immediately following worship we will share together in our picnic.

Chicken and ice cream will be provided.

If your last name begins with:

A-J: Please bring a salad

K-R: Please bring a side dish

S-Z: Please bring a dessert

Food may be left in the kitchen before worship.

Please contact [Betty Vecchiolla](#)
if you have any questions

Note: There will be no 8:30 a.m. service that day.

Hosted by the Congregational Life Committee of the Board of Deacons.

September Schedule of Meetings, Events, and Programs

**CHURCH OFFICES AND BUILDINGS WILL BE CLOSED
ON LABOR DAY, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4**

BOARD MEETINGS

Deacons: Wednesday, September 20, 7:30 p.m., Library
Trustees: Wednesday, September 20, 7:30 p.m., Westminster Room
Session: Wednesday, September 27, 7:30 p.m., Westminster Room

WORSHIP AND STUDY

Worship on Saturday evening:

Worship in the Chapel, Saturdays, beginning September 16, 5:00 p.m.

Worship on Sunday:

8:30 a.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel (Note: no service on September 10)

10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary (Note: September 10 under the Tent on the Great Lawn)

Prayer Gatherings: Sundays in the Library, September 10 at 9:40 a.m., September 17 & 24 at 8:40 a.m.

Adult Education:

“Faith and Forgiveness”: Sundays, September 17, 24, & October 1, 9:00-9:45 a.m., Westminster Room

Sunday School: Regular Sunday School on September 10, 17 & 24; No classes on September 3, Family Worship

Confirmation: Sunday, September 17: Confirmands & Families Orientation Meeting, 11:00 a.m., Chapel
 Sunday, September 24: Class & Pizza Dinner, 5:00 p.m., Westminster Room

Men’s Sunday Bible Study: September 17, 8:00 p.m., Library

Wednesday Morning Bible Discussion: September 6 & 20, 10:00 a.m., Library

Women’s Bible Study: Will reconvene in October on Saturdays, dates TBD, 10:00 a.m., Library

Women’s Discipleship: 12-Week Video Study “Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World,” by Joanna Weaver.
 Tuesdays, beginning September 12, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Library.

YOUTH

Boy Scout Troop #2: Every Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Assembly Room

Connection: Pool Party, Wednesday, September 20, Skelsey residence.

Starting in October will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month.

High School Youth Group: Sunday, September 17, 6:00 p.m., Miller Manse

MUSIC

Chancel Choir Rehearsal: Sundays, 9:15 & 11:30 a.m.

Chancel Choir Potluck Supper: Thursday, September 28, 6:30 p.m., Westminster Room

Children’s Choir Rehearsal: Thursdays, 3:45 p.m., Choir Room

Youth Choir Rehearsal: Dates TBD based on youth schedules, Sundays following 10:00 a.m. worship, Chapel

OTHER CHURCH MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND PROGRAMS

3 Ts: Tuesday, September 19, 10:00 a.m., Library

Coming Home Reunion: Sunday, September 24, 6:00 p.m., Westminster Room

Fall Festival: Sunday, September 10, following 10:00 a.m. worship, Great Lawn

Mission & Outreach: Wednesday, September 13, 7:30 p.m., Library

Stephen Ministry:

Stephen Ministry: Monday, September 25, 11:00 a.m., Library

Stephen Leaders: Tuesday, September 12, 5:30 p.m., Library

Continuing Education and Supervision: Tuesday, September 12, 7:00 p.m., Westminster Room

Thrift Shop: Reopening Thursday, September 14. Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Women’s Association: Monthly Meeting, Monday, September 11, 9:00 a.m., Westminster Room

Worship & Music: Wednesday, September 13, 7:30 p.m., Conference Room

OUTREACH AND SUPPORT GROUPS

AA Rye Harrison Group: Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Assembly Room

AA Group: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Westminster Room

Mr. Westchester/Al-Anon Group: Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Library

Sandwichmakers: Thursday, September 21, 11:00 a.m., Kitchen & Assembly Room

Rye Presbyterian Nursery School

Greetings to the RPC Community from Kristin Bassett Kumar

An in-depth study of bridges was an exciting part of one of our classrooms during the 2016-2017 school year. The study began when the children began using blocks to build bridges in the block center. They had a great interest in connecting one area to another. The teachers noticed that the group was creating bridges with magnets at the light table, with paper at the art studio, with natural materials in the sensory table, and even in the sandbox on the playground!

Throughout the year, families were invited to photograph any bridges they saw while traveling. The children shared their photos with their classmates at meeting time. The class discovered that the George Washington Bridge was a popular bridge that many of the students had driven over before. Together as a class, the students created a replica of the George Washington Bridge using tape, pipe cleaners, and cylinders. They

used their measuring skills to cut the pieces to proportion and tested the properties of balance and stability as they figured out how to hold it together.

The students conducted research using books to learn about how different kinds of bridges are built. They gained an understanding of the different characteristics and uses of beam bridges, arch bridges, cable stay bridges, suspension bridges, and truss bridges. The teachers used the overhead projector and transparencies to display large images of

these bridges for the students to explore with their whole bodies. Each student created a portfolio of bridge sketches, and the class practiced writing their new bridge vocabulary words.

The class also learned about the current construction of the new Tappan Zee Bridge. An architect and engineer who are working on the new bridge visited RPNS and treated the students to a detailed presentation of the project. The students learned about the installation of this cable stay bridge as they watched time lapse videos of the bridge being constructed. The visitors brought real materials from the bridge construction for the students to hold, and the children tried on some of the gear that bridge builders wear. The students asked the experts questions about the bridge, and the visitors were impressed by the children's knowledge! At the end of the school year, the class took a field trip to the look-out area to get an up close view of the new Tappan Zee Bridge being built.



The Rev. Daniel Love, Co-Pastor

The Rev. Dr. John Miller, Co-Pastor

Jason Charneski, Director of Music and Organist

Lisa Rawson, Director of Choirs for Children and Youth

Maida Robinson, Chief Administrative Officer

Peggy Berretta, Administrative Assistant

Denise LeVan, Pastoral Assistant

Nancy Lavelle, Interim Director of Children's Ministries

Yvonne Zuk, Sunday School Supervisor

Juan Velasquez, Head Sexton/Building Manager

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We are a Stephen Ministry church.