



As you read this, we will have begun the season of Advent, a season of waiting, longing, and listening. We will walk into the expectant darkness, waiting for the light to dawn, for the first cries of a vulnerable baby to redefine kingship and power forever. As Covid-19 pandemic numbers continue to climb, it means that this Advent/Christmas season many of us will again spend more time in seclusion and quarantine.

This got me to wondering about the Christmas story and the times of isolation and/or seclusion that we find within the nativity stories. What happened to these people while they were “apart”? I invite you to read Luke 1:5 – 2:20.

First there was Zechariah, father of John the Baptist. While he was serving as a priest in the sanctuary, set apart, in seclusion, going about his holy task, the angel Gabriel appeared to him at the altar. Zechariah was terrified. The angel told him that he and his aged wife, Elizabeth, would have a son, and that they were to name him John. Zechariah is struck mute for his disbelief until John is born.

Then we read in Luke 1:24 that Elizabeth conceives, and “for five months she remained in seclusion.” And while Elizabeth is in seclusion, the angel Gabriel again makes another appearance, this time to a young virgin girl named Mary, who was related to Elizabeth. The angel tells Mary that she has found favor with God and will conceive a son whose name shall be Jesus. After hearing all of this, Mary hastens to Elizabeth’s home, where together they celebrate their pending births. Mary remains in seclusion with Elizabeth for three months, and then goes home.

As Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem for the census, Mary

gives birth, not in the comfort of their home, but miles away, again “apart” from all that was familiar. Then shepherds who were living in the fields, in seclusion, in part to be near their flocks, but also because they were considered by many biblical scholars as unclean or outcasts because their profession, also experience an angelic visitation. “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace, good will among people!”

Do you see a common thread throughout the nativity stories of isolation and seclusion? To each person, in each place, into every situation, God sends an angel to be speak words of hope, promise and peace. To Zechariah, “Do not be afraid...” (Luke 1:13.) To Elizabeth, who proclaims, “This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably upon me...” (Luke 1:25.) To Mary, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.” (Luke 1:30.) And to the shepherds, “Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:10-11)

And so in this Advent/Christmas season, I invite you, during times of isolation, seclusion, and/or quarantine, to listen for the angelic voices around you. They may come in the form of a family member or friend. You may read them on the pages of a book or hear them in the words of a song. Pay attention, my friends, for God is speaking still.

Frederick Buechner, in his book, *Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC*, writes of angels, saying, “Sleight-of-hand magic is based on the demonstrable fact that as a rule people see only what they expect to see. Angels are powerful spirits whom God sends into the world to wish us well. Since we don’t expect to see them, we don’t. And angel spreads his glittering wings over us, and we say things like ‘It was one of those days that made you feel good just to be alive’ or ‘I had a hunch everything was going to turn out all right’ or ‘I don’t know where I ever found the courage.’”

Take courage,

The Christmas Season



Gingerbread Pick-Up

Sunday, December 6 / 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Christmas Tree Lighting

Sunday, December 6 / 7:00 p.m.
Live & Via Zoom

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 20 / 4:00 p.m.
Via Zoom



Christmas Eve



Family Service

with Live Nativity
5:00 p.m.—Via Zoom

Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols

10:00 p.m.
Live & Via Zoom

Please see the church website (www.ryepc.com) for further information.

Christmas Season 2020

STAR-GIVING

What I'd really like to give you for Christmas
is a star. . . .

Brilliance in a package,

something you could keep in the pocket of your jeans
or in the pocket of your being.

Something to take out in times of darkness,

something that would never snuff out or tarnish,
something you could hold in your hand,
something for wonderment,

something for pondering,

something that would remind you of

what Christmas has always meant:

God's Advent Light into the darkness of this world.

But stars are only God's for giving,

and I must be content to give you words and wishes and
packages without stars.

But I can wish you life

as radiant as the Star

that announced the Christ Child's coming,

and as filled with awe as the shepherds who stood
beneath its light.

And I can pass on to you the love

that has been given to me,

ignited countless times by others

who have knelt in Bethlehem's light.

Perhaps, if you ask, God will give you a star.

-Kneeling in Bethlehem by Ann Weems



**Celebrate the
Advent of the
Christmas season -
together, safely!**



Sunday evening, December 6, at 7:00 p.m.

**Via Zoom, or for those who are comfortable with it,
in-person on the front lawn of the church.**

To gather safely, here is the plan:

1. Pre-registration online will be required.
2. As hard as it is, it is requested that those gathered in person not sing, but the singing will be done only by a quartet of section leaders from the Chancel Choir. If you are at home on Zoom - sing with abandon!
3. All gathered on the lawn will need to wear masks and be safely distanced from each other.

Nonetheless, with candles in hand, we will welcome the Christmas season and the coming light of Christ into our midst!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

**Shopping with
Amazon this season?**

**Make RPC your charity of choice at
smile.amazon.com.**

Gingerbread House Pick-Up & Toy Drive

Sunday, December 6, 2:00-3:00 p.m.



This year we are bringing the joy of gingerbread house decorating to your homes! If your family would like to receive a gingerbread house kit, please register on our website -

<https://ryepc.com/article/gingerbread-house-pick-up-toy-drive/> - from Monday, November 23, through Friday, December 4. **There are only 25 houses available (one per family), so please register early!**

Families are invited to pull up in their cars (with masks on!) by the **Grape Arbor** on **Sunday, December 6**, from **2:00-3:00 p.m.** to pick up their gingerbread house kits and a holiday treat!

We encourage you to share a picture of your completed gingerbread houses at:

<https://padlet.com/ryepreschurch/gingerbreadhouses>

so our whole church community can join in on the fun!

We also invite families to join us in helping bring joy to our neighbors this season! You all are encouraged to participate in the **Exodus coat drive** or our **Open Door toy drive**. New, unwrapped toys and gifts valued at \$20 are needed for children ages newborn through 14 years old.

All donations can be dropped off at the church from **Monday, November 23 – Sunday, December 6**, or when you pick up your gingerbread house kit! You can also order toys from this **Amazon wish list**. Following is a list of toys needed this season:

Most Needed Toys:

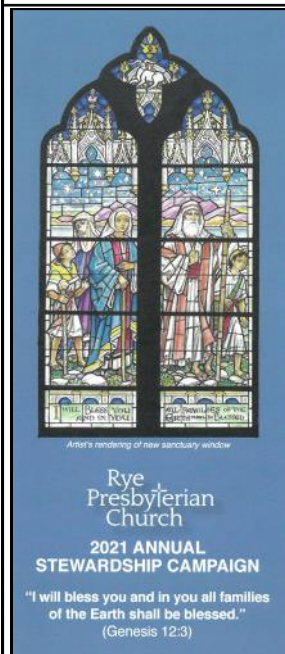
Baby toys, learning toys, baby dolls, Barbie Dolls, super heroes, Hot Wheel sets, Legos & Duplos, craft sets, Play-Doh sets, remote control vehicles, sporting goods, puzzles, tech toys, and board games.

Most Needed Gift Cards: Amazon, iTunes, and Target.

Please No: Stuffed animals, toy weapons, oversized toys

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. JP:
(jmarshall@ryepc.com).

Stewardship Update, Christmas Joy Offering



The 2021 Stewardship season puts the church in a unique position as we close out a challenging 2020 full of “firsts” for our world. We find ourselves in a time of many unknowns, disruptions, and divisiveness. Yet in recent months, our church has risen to meet the many challenges of this year with faith, faithfulness, and generosity. We are thankful for technology and the ability to be connected while remaining physically distant. Understanding and acknowledging the different challenges our community continues to face, we remain grateful for the ability to support those most in need both close and far away. As we step into the unknown future and embark on this Stewardship season, we invite you to prayerfully consider supporting our church and its mission by pledging generously for 2021. With your pledge in hand, we are better able to plan and commit resources for the upcoming year.

**Blessed with much,
let us be a blessing to others.**

Stewardship 2021 Update

As of November 24, here’s where we stand:

- Annual Stewardship for 2021:
184 pledges for \$776,100
Between increases and new pledges,
Up \$78,000 from 2020!

It is not too late to be included!
To make pledges for Stewardship 2021, please contact the church office at 967-0842, or pledge online:

<https://ryepc.com/stewardship-2021/>

Those who have made annual Stewardship pledges by December 14 will be gratefully acknowledged by name in the December 20 worship bulletin.

The Christmas Joy Offering



One of the most powerful things that Christians claim is that God saw the great needs of the world and offered a perfect gift in response, a gift that brought God and humanity closer together. God’s perfect gift is Jesus Christ. “Emmanuel, God is with us!” our Advent dream proclaims, as God joins in human life, and draws us together as a result. “God is with us” shows God values togetherness and relationship with us, leading us to value togetherness and relationship with one another. When we are all together — and even when we are apart.

During these past months, we weren’t

able to be together in person, but we have always been together in spirit, and in faith. We have missed seeing faces we love — up close and personal, but the physical distance has also revealed, for us, the importance of those things which bring us together, even when we are physically far apart.

We offer our gifts during this Advent Season to the Christmas Joy Offering because God shows us the power and importance of being together, of “being with.” We might not be able to meet face to face with those who need the support that our gifts provide, but we are very much still together.

We support the potential of students of color who will become our leaders and we seek to come alongside them, to encourage them, to be together with them. And we support church workers and their families who have critical financial needs and we come alongside them, to assist them — we are with them. And we see the witness of the whole Church, either gathered in buildings or connected home to home, member to member, sharing what we have, together. We thank God for being “with us” through the gift of Jesus and for joining us together as the Church and, through our gifts, with those who have need.

We can never match God’s perfect gift in Jesus, but through the Christmas Joy Offering, we can testify to who we have known God to be. Our perfect gift comes from above. Our gifts reflect our generous God. Our gifts support leaders in our Church and world — past, present, and future.

This annual special offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA) will be received through Sunday, December 20.

To donate online, [click here](#).

Year-end Giving, Coat Drive, Women's Discipleship, Adult Education

YEAR-END GIVING

YOUR CHARITABLE DEDUCTION

As 2020 comes to an end, please keep in mind the church financial records will close on **Thursday, December 31, 2020, at noon**. All checks must be received by **December 31** to qualify for a charitable deduction in the **2020 tax year**.

As you make your year-end gifts to the church, please note the purpose in the memo line or on the envelope—Annual Giving or Christmas Joy Offering. Separate checks for gifts are appreciated.

PLEDGE BALANCE

If you would like to check your annual giving and Imagine balance online through Access ACS, here: <https://ryepc.com/about-rpc/member-login/>

DONATING STOCK TO RPC

Gifts of stock to RPC are cleared through Janney Montgomery Scott LLC DTC #0374. For further credit to Rye Presbyterian Church Acct. #8926-9870. It is helpful as well to note that the church's legal name is the **Presbyterian Church in the Town of Rye**, and our tax ID is 13-1740299. If you have questions or a problem, contact Geoff Beringer at:

Janney Montgomery Scott
The Beringer Weinstock Group
800 Post Rd., Darien, CT 06820
Tel: 203-662-6360

To insure that your donation is accurately recorded at RPC, please also forward a copy of your letter of instruction to:

Maida Robinson

mrobinson@ryepc.com.



Online donation options are available on the RPC Website Giving page.

To access, go to ryepc.com/give or scan the QR Code to the right with your cell phone.

Please contact Maida Robinson:

mrobinson@ryepc.com

if you have any questions or need assistance.

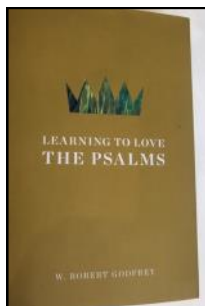
COAT DRIVE FOR THE FORMERLY INCARCERATED



Exodus Transitional Community is currently serving 350 men and women who have recently been released from Rikers and New York State prisons due to the Corona Virus. Many are coming out with only the clothes on their back – a T-shirt – in this cold weather. Let's help them.

Rye Presbyterian Church is joining with Exodus in a coat drive. They need new or gently used winter coats, winter jackets, sweaters, gloves and hats, or the funds to purchase these items. You may bring clothes to the church or order them from Amazon wish list or donate money online on the RPC website (<https://ryepc.com/article/coat-drive-for-the-formerly-incarcerated/>).

Your donations – **by Sunday, December 13** - will be much appreciated by these individuals beginning their lives anew on the outside.



Wednesday Mornings Women's Discipleship Group

8:30-10:00 a.m.

Via Zoom

Join us for our study:

**Learning to Love
THE PSALMS**

For details, email either

Alicia Baldwin (alicia.baldwin@verizon.net), or
Courtney Bennett (Courtneybennett910@gmail.com).

Adult Education

THURSDAY REFLECTIONS

Thursdays through January 21,
7:30 p.m.

(not meeting 11/26, 12/24, 12/31)

We meet together on Thursday evenings via Zoom at 7:30 p.m. Our first series will explore some of the basic tenets of our Reformed Faith. This four-part series includes 12 articles written by a variety of pastors and theologians.

The remaining themes are:

Who Are We, Honestly?

What Does God Have To Do With Us?

What Do We Have To Do With Each Other?

The group participants reflect a wide range of beliefs and are very accepting and respectful of all views.

Contact John Miller at:

jmiller@ryepc.com or 914-967-0842, ex. 14 for Zoom info and articles, which will be sent by email, or USPS if requested.

THRIFT SHOP

Weather Permitting!

**Thrift Shop Open (Outside Only)
Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Go to the Thrift Shop page on the RPC website -

<https://ryepc.com/ministries/thrift-shop/>
for Selling Procedures and further information.

Mission & Outreach
FALL 2020 MENU OF OPPORTUNITIES
In-kind and Volunteer Service

During these unprecedented times there remains a great need for those who are willing to help and volunteer. Below are opportunities for service that have been especially identified by our Mission and Outreach Committee. You can also find other opportunities for service under the:

“Ministries/Mission and Outreach” tab on our website: www.ryepc.com.

Mission & Outreach
FALL 2020 MENU OF OPPORTUNITIES
In-kind and Volunteer Service

Organization	Services	Who Can Help	Contact
A House On Beekman	Weekly delivery of baby supplies from Target	16+ Adults	Dinah Howland howland5jd@aol.com
Bread of Life (Giving Tree Global)	Food donations Food pantry pack and serve Food rescue from restaurants	ALL 16+, Family Family	www.givingtreeglobal.org/donate-food www.givingtreeglobal.org/get-involved
Caritas	Food donations Sous-chef weekly volunteers	ALL 16+	www.caritaspc.org
Carver Center	Food donations Food Pantry - pack bags	ALL 16+	www.carvercenter.org/volunteer
Exodus	Give new clothing & personal care items to recently released Riker's inmate housed by Exodus Men's Professional Clothing	ALL ALL	Amazon Wishlist Exodus Transitional Community Basics for Released People: www.etcny.org Drop off at RPC
SPRYE	3 nearly-new iPads needed for senior education Drivers -take seniors to appointments	ALL Adults	www.sprye.org
Youth Shelter of Westchester	Gently-used duffel bags and small suitcases for young men	ALL	Drop of at RPC Thrift Shop label for Youth Shelter

Christian Education, Confirmation



Throughout December, we are continuing on with virtual Sunday School! The curriculum is Illustrated Ministry's *An Illustrated Advent: Do Not Be Afraid*. Through art, reflection, and discussion, we will explore what it looks like to hold hope when life feels really uncertain, to bring peace in the face of fear, to practice joy when everything seems burdensome, and to choose love when, sometimes, it's just really hard. Each week we will focus on a different theme:

Dec. 6: To Bring PEACE

Dec. 13: To Practice JOY

Dec. 20: To Choose LOVE

Dec. 27: No Sunday School—

See you in the New Year!

Each Sunday we will meet as a small combined 30-minute class for PreK-5th grade via Zoom at 9:00 a.m. During each session, we will wonder more deeply about the classic Christmas story, imagine some of the details that aren't filled in for us, and make connections to our own context this season. If you would like your child(ren) to participate via Zoom, please fill out the registration form on our website <https://ryepc.com/ministries/children/>

Families are invited to join us in the conversation about fear and how God invites us to not be afraid! This curriculum comes with an Advent Calendar and weekly devotions written for children and adults of all ages, consisting of scripture, a brief reflection, discussion questions, weekly activities, and a prayer. If you would like to receive these materials and are not already signed up for our weekly Christian Ed newsletter, please contact [Rev. JP](#). We hope you and your families join us this Advent season as we journey through the themes of hope, peace, joy, and love!

Gingerbread House Pick-up

Sunday, December 6

Grape Arbor, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

See Page 2 for details.

Middle School Connection

All 6th – 8th graders are welcome at RPC's Connection!

• **Wednesday, Dec. 2, 5:30 p.m.,**

via Zoom: Join us as we spend time catching up, playing games, and praying together! Please contact Rev. JP for the Zoom link (jmarshall@ryepc.com).

• **Wednesday, Dec. 20, 5:30 p.m.,**

Assembly Room: Join us as we spend time catching up, playing games, and reflecting on the Advent season!

Let Rev. JP (jmarshall@ryepc.com) know if you'd like to be on the parent email list. You can also sign up for updates through Remind: text @rpecon to 81010 or sign up at:

<https://www.remind.com/join/rpecon>.

GroupMe - If your youth would like to be a part of our group chat, please send Rev. JP either your youth's cell-phone number or email - jmarshall@ryepc.com.

High School Youth Group

All 9th – 12th graders are welcome at RPC's High School Youth Group

• **Sunday, Dec. 13, 6:00 p.m., via Zoom** Join us for the fourth and final part of our Faith in an Anxious World series! We will learn that Jesus doesn't ask for perfection from his disciples—he asks us to listen and trust as he works both in us and through us to help others. In the midst of an anxious world, we can receive hope from God and spread that hope to others as we reflect on the reality that we are made in God's image, re-center ourselves by spending time with God, and reconnect with our circle and our faith community. Please contact Rev. JP (jmarshall@ryepc.com) for the Zoom link.

• **Sunday, Dec. 20, 6:00 p.m.,**

Assembly Room & Zoom: Join us for Vespers, where we invite our high school youth to slow down in the midst of all the busyness for a time of intentional connection and prayer this Advent season! Please let Rev. JP know beforehand (jmarshall@ryepc.com) if you plan on joining us for Vespers. Also, if

you have a specific concern you would like us to pray for, please feel free to reach out, even if you are unable to attend! If you would like to join virtually, please contact Rev. JP for the Zoom link.

We are on Instagram!

Username: ryepresyouth

(www.instagram.com/ryepresyouth/).

Updates through GroupMe!

Join our group chat for updates and keeping in touch with one another!

Please send **Rev. JP**

(jmarshall@ryepc.com) either your cell-phone number or email.

Updates through Remind!

Text @ryepre to 81010 or sign up at

<https://www.remind.com/join/ryepre>.

Confirmation

Who are we? A series of fortunate mutations? Why are we here? And if God made the world and declared it good, what on earth went wrong? How is God at work trying to mend all this? And how, in the middle of busy, chaotic, mid-pandemic lives do we better connect with that God?

These are the questions on the plate of the confirmation class as they reflect on who they are, and their place in God's story. At the end of this month, they will be writing a brief paper on their thoughts and questions about all that we have covered so far.

In an effort to keep up their solid work, there will be regular class meetings on Sunday afternoons, December 6 and 13. In these sessions we begin looking at Jesus' and his role in God's story. If meeting in person is still in our play-book, on both days the Zoom section of class will be at 3:45 p.m. and in-person class in the Assembly Room at 5:00 p.m.

Confirmation

Music Notes



From Jason Charneski

New Chapel Organ Installed

The new pipe organ for the chapel was delivered on November 4. Installation commenced the same day and was completed on November 16. Tuning, tonal finishing, and regulation of the pipes, as well as tests of all operating systems began on November 17. It should be able to be used by the time you receive this newsletter. *See photos.*

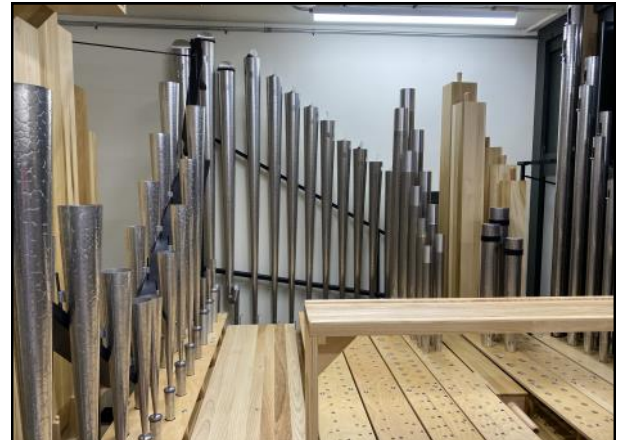
Stay tuned for information about a series of demonstrations of the new organ that I plan to offer following worship services in January. We will need to limit the number of persons who can attend these live mini-recitals; this to be in compliance with permissible attendance based upon seating capacity and distancing requirements.

Update on Reading the Bible

On June 1, I began my pandemic-days discipline of reading the Bible (*The New Oxford Annotated* version of the NRSV) in published order (beginning with Genesis, ending with Revelation). As of today (November 18), I am in Lamentations. I set a timer for 30 minutes and read at a pace wherein I do not feel rushed, nor compelled to complete x-number of chapters or pages.

Similar to the origins of the Historical books of the Old Testament, the Wisdom books and, now, the Prophets, likely were written within or soon after the 70-plus years of Judah's exile in Babylon (c. 586 – 516 B.C.E.). By written, I mean the stories and adages shared through oral tradition were codified. Might these accounts and ponderings have been documented as a way for the dispersed Hebrew peoples to come to have some form of unity? It would seem likely, especially relative to the worship practices and communal laws and ethics that sustained Israel through the Hellenistic period, the Roman conquest, and the Diaspora following the destruction of the second temple in Jerusalem in 70 C.E.

Consider this: Within approximately 30 years of Jesus' death and resurrection, the first letters of Paul and Peter and Mark's Gospel were written. Soon after came Matthew, Luke, Acts, and John. These documented testaments to the life and ministry of Jesus enabled Christianity to spread rapidly (of course, the size of the Roman Empire played a big part, too).



Installation of the 564 pipes.



Organ completed!



Large pipe being delivered.

New Members—Fall 2020



Cally & Will Bruce

Will and Cally, and their daughter Cecelia, moved from New York City in April of this year. Will is in finance, specifically a COO for a number of investment companies. Will likes to cycle, swim at the beach, and do things in the yard. Cally runs sales and marketing for a financial technology company, and also loves to travel, cook, run, beach time, and their many family adventures.



Kendra Dowling

As a teacher, Kendra spent her holidays traveling until one summer when she met her now husband, Travis, in Thailand. After spending five years in Australia together, they are so thankful to have found a home in Rye with their two little ones, Eloise (2.5) and Violet (1). Now, as a stay-at-home-mom, she most enjoys seeing the wonder and delight in their children's eyes as they learn each day more about the clever, adventurous, loving people they are. On a perfect day, Kendra will also greet the morning light with an energizing yoga practice and spend the afternoon outside with family and, with any luck, friends, too! She is a wallpaper enthusiast, aspiring Kikisake-Shi, has an affinity for French culture and baking, and fancies the idea of being proficient at paddleboarding.



Jamie & Russell Gehrett

Jamie is originally from Lawrenceville, Georgia, and moved to New York in 2013. She worked as a pediatric nurse at Memorial Sloan Kettering in New York City, before moving on to private practice. She is now a full-time mother to 18-month-old Raegan, and is expecting a second child in April 2021. Russ is originally from Seattle, and moved to New York in 2006. He is a partner at a private equity firm in New York City. Russ and Jamie were married in 2016 and moved to Rye in late 2018.



Allison & Ford Harrington

Allison and Ford moved to Rye in June 2020 from New York City with their 1½ year old son, Jay. Ford is originally from Baltimore, Maryland. Ally was born and raised in Rye (and a member of RPC!) They both work in finance and in their spare time enjoy exercising, family walks and outings, seeing friends and, one day, traveling. They are expecting a new addition in the spring and are thrilled to join RPC.



Christine & Marius Holzer

The Holzer family is excited to join the RPC community. Christine and Marius have three children: Soraya (10), Catarina (8), and Rafael (6) and they have been residing in Harrison since 2018. Prior to the move, they were all living in Zurich, Switzerland, for 10 years. The kids have acclimated to the American life and now have a fascination with donuts AND cheese. Rafael is obsessed with hedgehogs, Catarina with big cats. Soraya loves singing, Christine enjoys dancing, and Marius produces music in a quiet moment. Christine was raised in both Brooklyn and Long Island, went to Plainedge High School, earned her MBA from UNC Chapel Hill, and works in pharmaceutical global marketing. Marius is from Zurich, earned his MBA from INSEAD, and is the co-founder and chief operating officer in a multi-family office. They met each other in New York in 2008 and are happy to be back.

New Members—Fall 2020



Amanda Askew Kearney

Amanda was born and raised in Tuscaloosa, Alabama and attended First Presbyterian there. She and her husband, Brett, met in college at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia, where they both graduated in 2008. Collectively, they lived in Atlanta, Nashville, Chicago, Boston, and Manhattan, before settling down in Rye Neck last year, just before welcoming their first child, KJ, on September 19, 2019. A few months before KJ’s birth changed everything she thought she knew about being a working mother. Amanda graduated from Columbia with an MS in Sustainability Management. Recently she went back to work part-time for a small venture capital firm that specializes in renewable energy infrastructure and hydrogen investments. This is a vast departure from her other eight years working in fashion and she loves it. Amanda serves on

the junior board for Harlem Grown, a children’s charity in Manhattan. She is involved in board activities and fundraising, but also in hands-on ways such as planning crafting and sustainability lessons for the kids, which she much prefers. Amanda doesn’t have nearly as much time as she used to for her favorite hobbies, horseback riding, and reading, but she does still make time for her other favorite activities: cooking with Brett five nights a week (she cooks and he is involved in a supervisory capacity) and taking long walks with KJ in our neighborhood every day. The family loves the great outdoors, where Amanda feels most at peace and connected with God.



Young Kim

Young is happy that Rye has been her home for over 25 years. After working at Arthur Andersen & Co. and in the NYC garment center, she decided to devote her time to raising her children. As they grew up, Young spent much of her time in Rye volunteering with various not-for-profits. Young and her husband, Tim Mueller, have three adult children. She enjoys singing in the choir, knitting, and sewing.



Blair Love

Blair and Erskine recently moved from New York City to Rye with their one-year-old daughter Palmour. Prior to living in NYC, both Erskine and Blair grew up in the southeast and met while attending rival colleges in North Carolina. Currently, Erskine works for Apex Partners in their Capital Markets group and Blair is taking a break from her career as a general dentist to spend some time at home with their one-year-old and prepare for the arrival of their second daughter in February 2021.

Jean Loveless



Jean is so glad to be back in Rye and at the Osborn. Jean lived in Rye for 35 years before she and her husband Jim moved in 1998 to Morris, CT in the Litchfield area. Jean grew up in Harrison and was a member of the Harrison Presbyterian Church before switching their membership to RPC. Jean worked at Kids Stuff and then at the toy store for many years. Jim worked at Sloan Kettering and their children grew up here in Rye with many friends and church activities. Jim and Jean both served as deacons and Jim also served as an elder. Jim, passed away in 2007 and was laid to rest in the RPC Columbarium. Jean moved back to Rye last summer. As many of the RPC community know, Sue Carriero and Steve Loveless are their children. “RPC is certainly a wonderful part of our life. I’m so glad they are so active at church as is our granddaughter Emily, who is currently serving as an elder. What a wonderful church!!”

Worship

Weekend Worship

As we move into December, we will continue with a single service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. As we have done since the summer, that service will have limited in-person attendance and we ask that you sign up online to reserve a space each week. In addition, the online option through Zoom and YouTube will continue. As we keep an eye on demand and safety, we will add services as needed – bringing back the Saturday 5:00 p.m. service or an early Sunday service. Please watch your weekly emails for updates!

Online Worship

As mentioned above, live-streamed worship will continue this winter and will become a permanent feature of RPC. This month the installation of a permanent system in the sanctuary with multiple cameras, more microphones, and an upgraded sound system will be completed. The live feed will be available for now in Zoom and YouTube. But, if you don't have computer capability you can also dial in to hear the service on your phone. That information is in the box below. A special thank-you to the virtual worship crew, the Worship & Music committee, and the in-person usher corps for working so hard to make worship in the Covid-19 era go so smoothly!



DIAL IN TO SUNDAY WORSHIP!

To attend worship by using your phone, call
1-646-558-8656
then enter this Meeting ID: 560 770 303

SATURDAY AT 5 WORSHIP



ON HOLD
STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES

Worship in the Sanctuary In Person

(Reservation required—go to ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/ to reserve a pew.)

Please read our worship safety guidelines which can be found online: ryepc.com/article/worship-reopening-plan-and-guidelines/

Sunday Services also Online via Live Stream!

*Bulletin and instructions
on joining via Zoom or YouTube
are on the church website:
ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/*

*Instructions on joining by Zoom
and other platforms
are on the church website:
ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/*



In Memoriam

Recent Passing in our
Church Community

Edward T. Knizewski, on November 22,
father of Julianne Laverty



Birth

Announcement

Madison Anne Ginnings,
on October 26, daughter to
Ashley and Mike Ginnings.

Bible Studies, December Meetings

BIBLE STUDIES

Men's Bible Study

**Sunday, December 13,
at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Contact Dan Love, dlove@ryepc.com, if you'd like to be on the email reminder list and a part of our study of Luke's gospel.

Monday Morning Bible Discussion

**Mondays throughout the month
at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom**

Our 10,000-foot tour through the bible continues, though the end is in sight as we work through the letters of the New Testament. All are welcome to join in! Contact Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com if you'd like to be on the email reminder list.

Women's Bible Study

**Saturdays, December 5 & 12,
at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.**

For further information, contact Cynthia De Santis
(cynthialwells@gmail.com)

Annual Children's Christmas Pageant

**Sunday, December 20,
at 4:00 p.m., Via ZOOM**

Pageant Calendar:

Thursday, December 3, 3:30 p.m.-TBD via Zoom
Thursday, December 10, 3:30 p.m.-TBD via Zoom
Thursday, December 17, 3:30 p.m.-TBD via Zoom:
DRESS REHEARSAL
Sunday, December 20, 4:00 p.m. via Zoom:
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 2020



**LIVE NATIVITY
VIA ZOOM
Christmas Eve
5:00 p.m.**

For further information, contact Lisa Rawson.

DECEMBER MEETINGS

Board Meetings

Deacons: Wednesday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.
Trustees: Tuesday, Tuesday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.
Session: Wednesday, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study: Sunday, Dec. 13, 8:00 p.m., via Zoom
Monday Morning Bible Discussion: Mondays, 9:30 a.m.
via Zoom

Women's Bible Study: Saturdays, Dec, 5 & 12, 10:00 a.m.,
via Zoom

Youth

Confirmation Class: Sundays, Dec. 6 & 13, 3:45 p.m.,
via Zoom and 5:00 p.m., Assembly Room

Connection: Wednesdays, Dec. 2, 5:30 p.m., via Zoom,
and Dec. 20, 5:30 p.m., Assembly Room.

High School Youth Group: Sundays, Dec. 13, 6:00 p.m., via
Zoom & Dec. 20, 6:00 p.m., Assembly Room and via Zoom

Youth Choir: Sundays, Dec. 6 & 20, 11:00 a.m., via Zoom

Other Church Meetings

Adult Education: "Thursday Reflections", Thursdays through
January 31, 7:30 p.m.

3 Ts: Tuesday, Dec. 15, 10:00 a.m., via Zoom.

Contact Jane Mickatavage (Swingramm@aol.com) or
(914-967-8622); or

Nancy Steed (steedheart@aol.com) or (914-328-9658).

Family Fellowship:

-Gingerbread House Pick-up, Sunday, Dec. 6, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

-Christmas Tree Lighting /Caroling, Sunday, Dec. 6, 7:00 p.m.

Mission & Outreach: Wednesday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom

Personnel Committee: Monday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Stephen Ministry meetings via Zoom:

Prime Ministers: Thursday, Dec. 3, 10, & 17, 6:30 p.m.

Even Stephens: Monday, Dec. 7, 5:00 p.m.

Stephen Leaders: Tuesday, Dec, 1, 6:00 p.m., via Zoom

True Blues: Wednesday, Dec. 2, 7:00 p.m.

Thrift Shop: Open Thursdays, *weather permitting*, 10:00 a.m.-
1:00 p.m.,

Women's Discipleship Group: Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m.,
via Zoom

**CHURCH OFFICES AND BUILDINGS CLOSED
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, and
MONDAY, DECEMBER 27,
IN OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS**

Rye Presbyterian Nursery School

Greetings to the RPC Community from Kristin Bassett Kumar

Each November RPNS participates in a “Caring and Sharing” Thanksgiving Food Drive serving many needy families in our area. The teachers spoke with the children about what it means to be thankful and how lucky we are to have food to eat. We discussed that all people are not as fortunate as we are, and that some children do not have enough food. We talked with the children about the importance of helping others and explained to them that we will be collecting canned food to donate. The children in each class worked together to paint boxes that we used to collect the food. On November 13th, parent volunteers helped deliver the food collection to Carver Center Food Bank.



[The Rev. Daniel Love](#), Co-Pastor

[The Rev. Dr. John Miller](#), Co-Pastor

[The Rev. Jean-Paul Marshall](#), Associate Pastor for Christian Education

[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

[Juan Velasquez](#), Head Sexton/Building Manager

Alonso Osorio, Sunday Sexton

Rye Presbyterian Church

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Tel: 914.967.0842

www.ryepc.com

We are a Stephen Ministry church.