

LIFE TRANSITIONS

Many of us begin the New Year by reflecting on and/or planning for the transitions in our lives. Our life as a congregation is no different. Thus I want us to note two different transitions that are taking place within the life of our congregation.

First, after many decades of serving as home to the Boy Scouts Troop and Pack 2, a change is taking place. After all that has transpired with the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America, our church leadership felt that we could not continue to be the Charter Organization for the troop. And while we offered the troop and pack continued use of our space, the national organization requires each troop to have a signed agreement with a Charter Organization. Thus the troop and pack's new home will be at Christ's Church. We wish the youth and families involved all the best with this transition.

A second significant transition that we are in the midst of is the process of fully acquiring the facilities of All Souls Parish (The Presbyterian Church of Port Chester). We have received all of the necessary approvals from both congregations and the presbytery and now simply await the final action of the court to make this transition official.

I would ask two things of you. First, some of the members of the former All Souls Parish may choose to worship with us and eventually become members here at Rye Presbyterian. I encourage you to welcome them with open hearts and arms. They have been moving through a time of grief at the closing of their church and need to know that we have a place for them here. Second, be in prayer for the transition team as it seeks in the year ahead to discern the leading of God's Spirit in how we might best use these facilities for the benefit of the people of the Port Chester community and to the glory of God. If you

have ideas about this, please feel free to reach out to your co-pastors or to Elder Pat McGunagle, who chairs the transition team.

As we move through these and other transitions in our lives, let us remember that we never do so alone. That God's presence and grace is with us. Frederick Buechner, in his book *Wishful Thinking*, defines *grace* this way: "The grace of God means something like: Here is your life. You might never have been, but you *are* because the party wouldn't have been complete without you. Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid. I am with you. Nothing can ever separate us. It's for you I created the universe. I love you. There's only one catch. Like any other gift, the gift of grace can be yours only if you'll reach out and take it. Maybe being able to reach out and take it is a gift too."

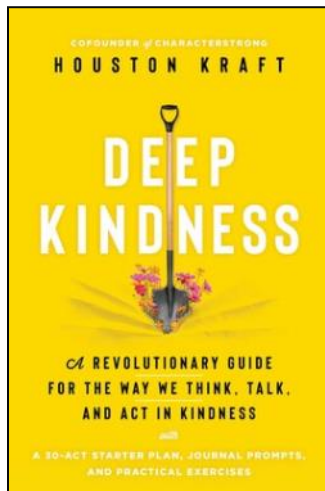
Keep reaching out –



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Adult Education, Caring Connections



A BOOK STUDY

Tuesdays – 7:30pm, Rye Presbyterian Church – via Zoom

Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, March 1

Join John Miller in this six-week discussion of Houston Kraft's book – *Deep Kindness*. Practicing kindness is an essential step in helping to repair a world that has grown to be more divisive, lonely, and anxious. Exploring everything from empathy to emotional regulation, *Deep Kindness* is perfect for anyone who is looking to dig below the superficial definition of kindness to truly understand and embody their role in creating a kinder world.

Please purchase and read the book in advance.

For more information, contact John Miller at jmiller@ryepc.com

(Note: this group will meet in via Zoom only.)



CARING CONNECTIONS

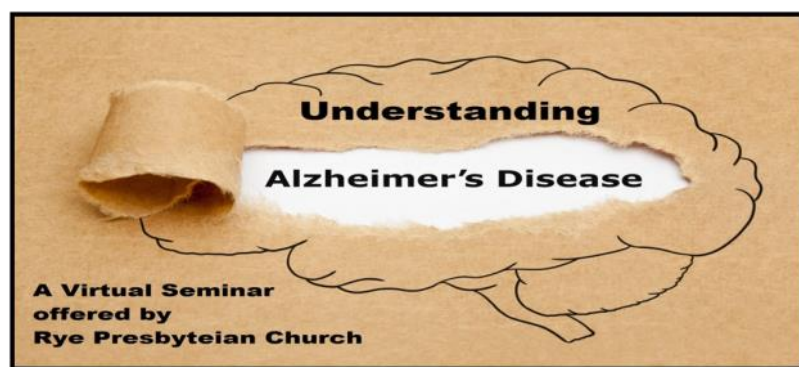
Save the Date!
Stephen Ministry Course
Fall 2022 at RPC

Caring Connections, a Stephen Ministry-based training course, has been helping RPC members become better listeners and caregivers since 2004. Planning is in the works for our eleventh offering, now open to all who wish to explore and improve skills which help people in need. The 8-week program begins with a September Saturday retreat and ends before Thanksgiving. Those interested in becoming a Stephen Minister should definitely take the course, which includes additional sessions in 2023.

Classes will be led by our clergy and RPC Stephen Leaders. For more information and to register, contact Carol Love, cloveny@optonline.net or any of the other following Stephen Leaders: Jan Kelsey, Patti Adimari, Becky Ruegger, Elizabeth Lukes, and Allison Reynolds.

Rye Presbyterian Church
882 Boston Post Road, Rye, NY 10580
914.967.0842 / www.ryepc.com

Understanding Alzheimer’s Disease Seminar, Coming Home



**Wednesday,
February 9,
at 7:30 p.m.
via Zoom**

This gathering is for you...

- If you know someone with Alzheimer’s Disease and would like to understand it more.
- If you know someone who is starting to worry about their own memory issues.
- If you are a caregiver or know a caregiver and would like to understand that role better.
- If you want to know what resources are available for people dealing with Alzheimer’s.
- If you are interested in learning more about what’s on the horizon about Alzheimer’s disease.

Presenters:



Jody Addeo, MPH, LNHA, is the Community Engagement Manager for Westchester & Rockland Counties for the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter. She will present an overview of the disease and highlight the help available in the community to be given by you.



Gurney Williams, was a caregiver for his wife for many years. His wife had primary progressive aphasia. When he could no longer care for her at home, she went to the care facility where he continued to help with her care and did some staff training. He will be sharing from the caregiver’s viewpoint.



Gary E. Gibson, Ph.D., is professor of Neuroscience at Weill Cornell Medicine/Burke Neurological Institute. He has performed preclinical studies for decades. Recently he and his colleagues tested the resulting ideas in a pilot clinical trial with encouraging results. He will discuss some exciting current areas of research and some results from the pilot clinical.



The presentations will be followed by a Q&A.
To register, [click here](#).

For more information, please contact John Miller



2022 COMING HOME UPDATE

After thoughtful reflection and discussion, the leadership team of the Coming Home program (Kevin Bunch, Program Coordinator; Claire Hurst, Social Worker; John Miller, Co-Pastor) do not believe that we should attempt to do a shortened version of the program this spring. The face-to-face fellowship dinner is such a vital part of the Coming

Home program here at Rye Presbyterian that doing the program with only a very limited meal would do more to detract from the program than to wait and do a significant relaunch of the program in 2023. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to one of the leadership team members. We did not arrive at this decision casually, and truly look forward to offering a “fully restored” Coming Home program in early 2023. Thank you for your understanding. We look forward to your participation in early 2023.

Christian Education, Confirmation



YOUTH GROUP

This February we continue our journey through our Sunday School curriculum called **Celebrate Wonder**, which seeks to engage our children's natural sense of wonder and curiosity to help them understand God's love. Through opportunities for reflection, music, engaging activities, and spiritual practices, our children will be given a safe space to ask big questions and help them live into their identities as beloved children of God. Below are the stories we are engaging this month:

- Feb. 6** Luke 4:38-44 (Jesus Heals)
- Feb. 13:** Luke 5:17-26
(The Five Friends)
- Feb. 20:** Luke 6:6-11 (Healing the Man with Withered Hand)
- Feb. 27:** Luke 7:1-10
(A Servant is Healed)

We invite families to engage these stories together at home. This curriculum comes with its own Take-Home pages that invite families to read, wonder, and pray together. These pages will be sent home with your children every Sunday morning. We will also include these pages in our **weekly Christian Ed newsletter**. If you would like to receive these pages and are not already signed up for our newsletter, please contact **Rev. JP** (jmarshall@ryepc.com).

Middle School Connection

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

**Wednesdays, February 2 & 16,
5:30-6:45 p.m., Youth Rooms**

We'll take time to catch up with one another over pizza, then play some games and reflect together!

Let **Rev JP** (jmarshall@ryepc.com) know if you'd like to be on the **parent email list**. All updates about Connection gatherings will also be put on the website each month.

High School Youth Group

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

- **Sunday, February 6, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Assembly Room**

Summer Mission Trip Prep Meeting—All participants of the summer mission trip will take time to get to know one another and discuss why we are going on this trip.

- **Sunday, February 13,
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Bread of Life Food Pantry (65 Orchard Ave.)**

Join us as help Bread of Life prepare pantry bags for local families. We will meet at the pantry at 11:30 a.m., and we should be done by 1:00 p.m. Please let **Rev. JP** (jmarshall@ryepc.com) know if you would like to join us that morning. We are also collecting food donations to bring with us that morning. You can drop off your donations in Rev. JP's office—contact Rev. JP to let him know when you wish to drop off your items. Below are the items needed at this time:

- Soups
- Peanut butter
- Pasta and sauce
- Pancake mix
- Cereal
- Canned fruits and veggies
- Rice

- **Sunday, February 27
6:30 p.m., Chapel**

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. We will begin our time together with a moment of connection and food. Please let **Rev. JP** (jmarshall@ryepc.com) know beforehand 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!

We are on Instagram:

Username: ryepresyouth

Updates through GroupMe! Join our youth 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.

Confirmation

**Sundays, February 6 and 27,
4:00 or 5:00 p.m.
in the Westminster Room**



Worship, Giving. In Memoriam

Weekend Worship

As we move into February, we will continue with a single service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. As we have done throughout the last year, that service will have limited in-person attendance. 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 and is now a permanent feature of RPC. The live feed will be available for now on 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.

**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*

Worship in the Sanctuary In Person

GUIDELINES

In keeping with our practices since March of 2020, we have continued to study recommendations and guidelines from the NYS Department of Health, the CDC, and Presbytery. The guiding principle of the task force has been to ensure the health and safety of our congregants and of our leadership. In light of recent decisions by the CDC and New York State reflecting the situation regarding COVID-19, we have revised our guidelines for in-person worship and other gatherings at the church facility. Below are our revised worship guidelines. Know that our live-stream services are going well and will continue in some form for the foreseeable future. Because of the increased incidence of COVID infections in Westchester County at this time, we have modified our mask policy:

Masks are required for all attending in-person.

Updated guidelines for safely attending in-person may be found on our website at <https://ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/>

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/

Bulletins will also be available there.



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.



In Memoriam

*Recent Passings in our
Church Community*

Marjorie G. Bancel, January 19

*David L. Foster, December 24,
father and father-in-law of
Cynthia Foster Curry and Bernard Curry,
and grandfather of Jack, Bo, and Jesse Curry*

Gilbert Chin, January 24, father of Richard Chin

Bible Studies, Meetings

BIBLE STUDIES

Men's Bible Study

Sundays, February 6 & 27,

8:00 p.m. in the Library with Zoom option

All are welcome to join in as we continue this study and conversation with the Acts of the Apostles and with each other. Contact Dan Love, dlove@ryepc.com, for more information

Monday Morning Bible Discussion

February 7, 14, 28,
9:30 a.m., via Zoom

All are welcome to our ongoing reading of the Gospel according to Luke. Please contact Dan Love, dlove@ryepc.com, for more information or to be on the reminder list.

Women's Bible Study

Saturdays, February 5 & 12, 10:00 a.m., via Zoom

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

WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

Wednesday Mornings
9:30am-11:00am
in the the RPC Library
Zoom TBD

Please join us for our study:..

FAITH AND FIRE
ELIJAH
by Priscilla Shirer



Please e-mail questions to:

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

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, February 6,
following 10:00 a.m. worship,
in person & via Zoom.

FEBRUARY

Church Office Closed on Monday, February 21,
in observance of Presidents' Day

Board Meetings

Deacons: Thursday, Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom

Trustees: Tuesday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom

Session: Wednesday, Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom

Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study: Sundays, Feb. 6 & 27, 8:00 p.m., Library
with Zoom option

Monday Morning Bible Discussion: Feb. 7, 14, & 28,
9:30 a.m., via Zoom

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

Women's Discipleship: Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m., Library

Adult Education

-Book Study: *Deep Kindness* by Houston Kraft

Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, March 1;
contact John Miller, jmiller@ryepc.com, for
further information.

-Understanding Alzheimer's Disease,

Wednesday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom,
contact John Miller, jmiller@ryepc.com, for
further information.

Youth

Confirmation: Sundays, Feb. 6 & 27, at 4:00 or 5:00 p.m.,
Assembly Room

Connection: Wednesdays, Feb. 2 & 16, 5:30 p.m.,
Youth Rooms

High School Youth Group:

-Sunday, Feb. 6, 6:00 p.m., Assembly Room
Summer Mission Trip prep meeting

-Sunday, Feb. 13, 11:30 a.m., Bread of Life Food Pantry

-Sunday, Feb. 27, 6:00 p.m., Vespers, Chapel

Music

Chancel Choir: Meet 9:15 a.m., sing at 10:00 a.m. service,
rehearsal following service (11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)

Other Church Meetings

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

Stephen Ministers:

-**True Blues:** Wednesday, Feb. 3, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom

3Ts: Tuesday, Feb. 15, 9:50 a.m., via Zoom

Contact [Jane Mickatavage](mailto:Jane.Mickatavage@ryepc.com) (914-967-8622) or

[Nancy Steed](mailto:Nancy.Steed@ryepc.com) (914-328-9658).

Thrift Shop: Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Assembly
Room.

Rye Presbyterian Nursery School

Greetings to the RPC Community
from
Kristin Bassett Kumar

Math is an important part of the curriculum at RPNS. We believe in a hands-on, child centered approach to learning. Every week, the children engage in fun math games and interactive centers to practice various math concepts. This month, the children played a game to match mittens with numerals and dots. This activity gave the children an opportunity to identify numerals and practice 1-1 correspondence as they counted the dots on the matching mitten. They also played a snowman dice game. To play, children rolled a die and placed snowman parts on their snowman.



[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*
 Theodore Cheng, *Knock Intern in Sacred Music*
[Maida Robinson](#), *Chief Administrative Officer*
[Peggy Berretta](#), *Administrative Assistant*
[Denise LeVan](#), *Pastoral Assistant*
[Juan Velasquez](#), *Head Sexton/Building Manager*
 Alonso Osorio, *Sunday Sexton*

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