



As a novice gardener with an odd passion for fruit trees, I learned in recent years that while the trees go dormant for the winter months, it is time for a gardener to get out of one's own winter dormancy and get to work! It is time to sharpen the tools and tend to some winter pruning.

The first step is fairly straight forward. Dead, dying, or diseased branches are clipped out. Easy enough. But then it gets more difficult. The next step is to identify branches that may look healthy, but are growing in unhelpful directions, like crossing or damaging other branches, or inward toward the trunk. The next step is the

hardest, and in fact feels very wrong. Perfectly healthy branches are removed to balance and shape the tree. The goal is to allow both light and air to move through the tree throughout the growing season. It also keeps the tree from becoming overgrown, strengthens the tree's structure, and allows the tree to produce the best fruit year after year. Finally, to strengthen all the limbs, new growth from the previous season is cut back by one third.

It feels really harsh to do this winter pruning, but in the long run, it encourages health, balance, and a lifetime of fruitfulness.

I believe there is a lesson here for us as well. In the quieter months of winter, we are given some time to assess our own lives. What in our lives is no longer fruitful and life-giving for us, or for others? How is our busyness unhelpful, simply crowding the hours of our days and dissipating our vigor? Are we bearing the "fruit of the Spirit" that the Bible speaks of: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22)? And how then, even among the healthy activities of life, do we have the courage to prune – creating space for light, and sun, and the Spirit of God to find its way in to our heart?

As we celebrate the 150th anniversary of our sanctuary this year, we have embarked on our Service Challenge – asking everyone to offer 150 minutes of service each month to the church or the larger community. While slightly counterintuitive, it may also be a good time to step back and take a look at the shape of our lives. In all that we do – even giving generously of our time - are our lives balanced, strong, and fruitful, or are we simply "busy?"

In the quiet of winter, and as Lent begins later this month, may we all find the time for such a closer look. May we discover deeply fruitful and fulfilling lives. And, as needed, may we also have the courage to do some Spirit-directed winter pruning.



February 26
Services at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.
in Crawford Chapel



A gift of creativity left in the offering plate on Christmas Eve by an anonymous artist!

What's Inside?

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Adult Education

Adult Education Presents Exciting Learning Opportunities as 2020 Begins

Much is happening in the world, our country, and RPC in this Leap Year, and the Adult Education Committee has developed several programs to address many of those issues.

To begin with, we will present Part II of “Race and Religion”—based on the book “Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race.” In this part we will partner with a racially diverse congregation in Mount Vernon. We’ll alternate our meetings between their church home and RPC, to have a shared meal and discussion on the place of race in our secular and religious lives. We hope all who participated this past fall in Part I of these discussions will join us for Part II. Anyone who did not attend them, but would like to join in Part II, should contact John Miller.

Our Lenten Book Study this year will be led by Dan Love and JP Marshall on Tuesday evenings in March. It will focus on *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. The book examines many of the Bible’s mysteries and will help us reflect on and discuss those mysteries and how they help us navigate this world.

After Easter, John Miller will lead a book study of Skye Jethani’s short book, *The Voting Booth: A New Vision for Christian Engagement in a Post-Christian Culture*. Written as a short three-act allegorical play, as Pilgrim’s Progress was a couple of centuries ago, it is not focused on the various current candidates and parties and their visions for the country. Rather, its main character, Christian, is wrestling with *what kind of future his faith is pointing him to and how he should live* and vote in a post-Christian culture.

As in the past couple of years, we will have sessions of “Show Up and Make” on April 25 and 26 following worship services to enable the congregation to free their artistic selves and express their faith through their hearts, as well as their minds.

Ongoing programs have already started and will continue through June, including:

- Men’s Bible Study twice a month at 8:00 p.m. on Sundays led by Dan Love
- Monday Morning Bible discussion at 9:30 a.m. every other Monday, led by Dan Love
- Women’s Bible Study every other Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m., led by Cynthia De Santis
- Women’s Discipleship Group every other Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., with varying topics and books on which to focus.
- New Member orientation on March 1 and 8 in the Library after 10:00 a.m. worship.
- Cancer Support Group for women who are cancer patients, caregivers, and survivors. For information, contact Becky Ruegger (Rhruegger@aol.com).
- Three T’s—a discussion group meeting the Third Tuesday of the Month at 10:00 a.m.

In all these ways, and others, RPC continues to be a learning organization devoted to continuing growth in knowledge, wisdom, and faith. We hope everyone in the congregation will take advantage of these many and varied opportunities.

Sunday Mornings



9:00-9:45 a.m.
Westminster Room
through June 14

Join us for coffee and conversation as we explore the scriptural texts that will be used in worship each Sunday using the lectionary-based curriculum, *Feasting on the Word*. Each session is a stand-alone session, so participants can join the study at any point.



(There will be **no** class on the following weekends: 2/16, 4/12, 5/24.)

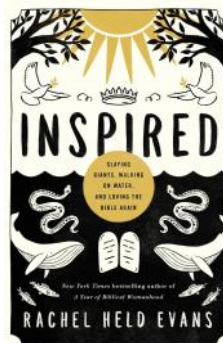
Evening Study

Last fall participants read Debbie Irving’s book, *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*, as well as The Confession of Belhar. We are working on partnering with another congregation which is more racially diverse than ours and continuing the conversation regarding race and religion with one another.

If you did not attend Part I, but are interested in participating in these discussions, please contact Dr. Miller (jmiller@ryepc.com).



Lenten Book Study



Inspired
By Rachel Held Evans

Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31
7:30 p.m.—Library

Do you find yourself unsure of how to feel about the Bible? Or maybe you’ve read it from front to back multiple times out of love for its stories? Or you find yourself somewhere in-between? Wherever you might be with your relationship with the Bible, you are invited to bring your doubt, curiosity, and imagination to this Lenten book study led by Rev. Marshall and Rev. Love on Rachel Held Evans’ book, *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*.

In her book, Rachel Held Evans wrestles through the process of doubting, imagining, and debating Scripture’s mysteries. The Bible, she discovers, is not a static work, but a living, breathing, captivating, and confounding book that is able to equip us to join God’s loving and redemptive work in the world.

Stephen Ministry, Coming Home, New Members



BEST LAID PLANS

Milestones, like the new calendar year, can inspire resolutions, to-do lists, and fresh starts. But every so often, our year doesn't work out the way we hoped or planned. When something unforeseen happens and we realize that we are not in control, we can feel lost, overwhelmed, angry, and even afraid. Stephen Ministers are trained to listen and support when our best-laid plans go sideways. They are aware that the best route to healing is to offer an objective compassionate ear as we sort out a new "normal."

If you or someone you know has felt the ripple effect of challenging circumstances moving into a new year, contact the Rye Presbyterian Church clergy or Patti Adimari (pattirys@optonline.net, 914-844-8974) to learn more about how Stephen Ministry can help.

COMING HOME

**is Coming Back in 2020,
beginning February 6**



Our **COMING HOME** program seeks to empower those who are returning to the community from incarceration. This 18-week program pairs RPC congregants with the formerly incarcerated to help them transition back to their communities. Coming

Home provides life skills, goal-setting, and sharing personal stories in a safe, supportive community.

A key component of this program is the relationships that develop between mentors (volunteers from our congregation) and program participants. We are in need of those who are willing to serve as mentors. If you are willing to do so, or simply want to know more about this ministry opportunity, please contact John Miller at:

jmiller@ryepc.com, or at (914) 967-0842.

We will also need folks who are willing to serve as cooks and hosts as each evening includes a meal prepared and served by RPC congregants, who share table fellowship as well.

Please contact Linda Otness
(otness.linda@gmail.com)
if you can assist in this important role.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

**Sundays, March 1 & 8,
11:00 a.m., Library**

Perhaps you've been coming to RPC a long time, or perhaps you are brand new to the area or the church. Either way, if you've thought about taking a further step into the life and ministry of RPC, this is a great time to explore it. All those who are interested in finding out more about what it means to be a member of Rye Presbyterian Church are invited to take part in the New Member classes on Sundays, March 1 and 8, immediately following 10:00 a.m. worship in the church library. 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 our 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, March 22, at 7:00 p.m. This is 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, March 29.

Anyone wishing to find out more about joining the church should contact Peggy Berretta in the church office-email pberretta@ryepc.com, or call 914-967-0842 x10.

**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

*Light of the World,
shine upon us this day.
Remake us anew, that your
light may burst forth and your
joy enfold the earth!*



*Christmas Eve Candlelighting
10:00 p.m. Service*

Sesquicentennial Service Challenge

“My Gift of Service” by Sam Dimon

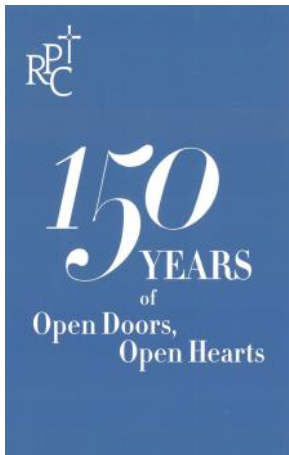
“[I]t’s important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing ... goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you.” Romans 12: 3 (The Message). Gene Peterson’s translation of Paul’s words to the Romans seems backwards! After all, I’M the one who serves on our church’s Session and Mission and Outreach Committee, teaches Sunday School, and visits members of our congregation who are homebound or in nursing homes. That’s MY gift to God, right? It’s foolish to say these “acts of service” are GOD’S gift to me. Exactly! Paul has the habit of saying he’s a fool for Christ — which to me is part of his peculiar charm. He loves to turn “logical thinking” upside down. He says we’re “created in Jesus to do good works” (Ephesians 2:10)— check; that makes sense — but goes on to say GOD created those good works in advance for us to walk in. What?! Isn’t it I who choose my acts of service and do them? Sure, in a certain way. But focusing on MY part in acts of service doesn’t give me even a smidgen of joy. What’s awesome beyond words is when I find myself “in the flow” with whomever I’m supposedly serving.

More than 50 years ago I discovered I have a gift for being with children. My experiences have included tutoring children who were behind in school; volunteering at a school that serves autistic-spectrum children; working in day care centers for a year; getting married to Cheryl, who brought our three wonderful (and sometimes trying) children into the world; helping start an organization that fights sex and labor traffickers, especially those who prey on children; chairing the board of an organization that serves children (and their families) in the South Bronx; and supporting after-school and early childhood development programming in the Bankhead area of Atlanta. Who gave me my giftedness with children? God! Who used my giftedness to invite me into service? God! Who has given me resources to support child-serving organizations, especially in their early years? God! And who gives me joy when I’m with children? God! Of course, it’s not just being with children that gives me joy. Just being with my church family can be a ridiculously joyful thing for me.

I hope you find that so as well.

Sam Dimon is an elder serving on the Session. He also chairs the Grants Committee of the Mission and Outreach Committee. He also serves on the board of A House on Beekman.

The Sesquicentennial Service Challenge



2020 marks the sesquicentennial of our sanctuary. 150 years of people coming in and going out through the doors of our beautiful sanctuary. People come in to find their faith strengthened and renewed as we worship together. People then go out in service to the world beyond our doors.

The Mission and Outreach Committee invites you to join your fellow disciples of Rye Presbyterian Church in the 2020 Sesquicentennial Service Challenge!

The goal: At least 150 minutes of service from every member for every month of 2020. With 1180 members, that would mean the total number of services minutes for 2020 would be 2,124,000!

TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE, GO TO:
<https://ryepc.com/article/the-sesquicentennial-service-challenge/>

TO RECORD YOUR MINUTES, GO TO: <https://ryepc.com/150>

**Sesquicentennial Service Challenge . . .
An Individual Challenge for a Common Goal!**

Christian Education, Confirmation, Communion Workshop



Sunday School

This month we continue to celebrate the season of Epiphany, the time of year when we celebrate Jesus arriving as the light of the world, the manifestation of God's love for all creation. During this season, we are encouraged to strive, live, and grow into the people God intends with Jesus' light guiding us along the way.

We continue to invite our children to live into and out of God's story of creation, fall, redemption, and restoration with the help of the DWELL curriculum. We invite families to engage these stories together at home! You can do this by following along at:

<https://digital.dwellcurriculum.org/>,

which gives parents a glimpse into what we will focus on each week.

"Cards for College"

Coffee Hours

All are invited to join us for two special coffee hours following worship on Sundays, February 9 & 23, as we gather to write cards to our college freshmen! We will have cards out for each student so everyone can write out words of love and encouragement. Children are invited to write in the cards as well, or to color something of their own to send with the cards.

Middle School Connection

RPC's Middle School Youth Group, is open to all 6th–8th graders.

We meet three times this month:

•**Wednesday, February 5, 5:30-6:45 p.m., Youth Rooms:** We'll meet for a pizza dinner, games, learning, and fun!

•**Ash Wednesday, February 26 6:15-7:30 p.m., Youth Rooms & Chapel:** We will meet for dinner at 6:15 p.m. in the Youth Rooms and then go together to the 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday service. Parents and siblings are invited to stay for a light dinner provided by the CE committee in the Assembly Room. Stay for some fellowship and then join us for the 7:00 p.m. service!

•**Saturday, February 29, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Meet at RPC:** We'll help serve those in need at "Dinner at Noon" at the Port Chester Carver Center. Please RSVP to Rev. JP at:

jmarshall@ryepc.com.

Please let Rev. JP know if you'd like to be on the email list -

jmarshall@ryepc.com

Also, you can sign up for updates through Remind: text @rpcccon to 81010 or sign up at:

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

Middle School
Connection

High School Youth Group

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

•**Sunday, February 9 6:00-7:45 p.m., Kitchen:** We will meet in the kitchen to prepare a meal together for the Coming Home program that will be held the following Thursday. We will learn to cook a recipe together and discuss the importance of the Coming Home program held by our church.

•**Thursday, February 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Kitchen & Westminster Room:** We will help serve the meal of the evening and share table fellowship with the participants and mentors attending the Coming Home program that evening. This is a great way for the youth to participate in one of our community's ministries!

•**Sunday, February 23, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Youth Rooms:** *NOLA Prep Meeting #2*– All participants of the NOLA mission trips will take time to get to know one another and discuss why we are going to New Orleans. We will also spend time planning out our annual Bingo fundraising event for the following Sunday.

We are on Instagram!

Username: ryepresyouth (click [here](#)).

Updates through GroupMe!

Please email/text your name and phone number - jmarshall@ryepc.com.

Updates through Remind!

Text @ryepr to 81010 or sign up at <https://www.remind.com/join/ryepr>.



COMMUNION WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 8, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

The body of Christ?
What is that all about?
And what exactly is in that cup??

If your child or children have been curious about the Lord's Supper, this is a great opportunity for children to learn more about it, to be officially welcomed at the communion celebration of the church, and for you to grow in your faith together.

On Saturday, February 8, from 10:00-11:30 a.m., children in the second through fifth grades are welcome to come with a parent to this special workshop. Together we will explore the meaning of the sacrament and how we celebrate it here at Rye Presbyterian.

Space is limited, so please sign up by contacting Rev. Love (dlove@ryepc.com).

Confirmation 2020

Sunday, February 2
3:00 & 4:00 p.m.

in the Westminster Room
(Please note the earlier time!)

Sunday, February 9
4:00 & 5:00 p.m. in the Westminster Room

Sunday, February 23
4:00 & 5:00 p.m. in the Westminster Room





Weekends in February, Bible Study

Saturday, February 1

5:00 p.m. Worship & Communion / Chapel

Sunday, February 2

8:30 a.m. Worship & Communion / Chapel

8:40 a.m. Prayer Gathering / Library

9:00 a.m. Adult Education / Westminster Room

9:30 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal / Jason's Office

10:00 a.m. Worship & Communion / Sanctuary

Children's Choir Sings

Sunday School

-Children attend worship through children's message

11:00 a.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal / Jason's Office

11:00 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting / Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room

3:00 & 4:00 p.m. Confirmation / Westminster Room

Saturday, February 8

5:00 p.m. Worship & Communion / Chapel

Sunday, February 9

8:30 a.m. Worship & Communion / Chapel

8:40 a.m. Prayer Gathering / Library

9:00 a.m. Adult Education / Westminster Room

9:00 a.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal / Jason's Office

10:00 a.m. Worship / Sanctuary

Youth Choir Sings

Sunday School

-Children attend worship through children's message

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Cards for College / Assembly Room

11:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room

4:00 & 5:00 p.m. Confirmation / Westminster Room

6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group / Kitchen & Westminster

Saturday, February 15

5:00 p.m. Worship & Communion / Chapel

Sunday, February 16

8:30 a.m. Worship & Communion / Chapel

8:40 a.m. Prayer Gathering / Library

10:00 a.m. Worship / Sanctuary

No Sunday School -Enrichment Activities

11:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room

Saturday, February 22

5:00 p.m. Worship & Communion / Chapel

Sunday, February 23

8:30 a.m. Worship & Communion / Chapel

8:40 a.m. Prayer Gathering / Library

9:00 a.m. Adult Education / Westminster Room

10:00 a.m. Worship / Sanctuary

-Children attend worship through children's message.

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour Cards for College / Assembly Room

11:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal / Choir Room

4:00 & 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class / Westminster Room

6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group / Youth Room

8:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study / Library

Saturday, February 29

5:00 p.m. Contemplative Worship / Chapel

BIBLE STUDIES

Men's Bible Study

Sunday, February 23, at 8:00 p.m. in the Library

All are welcome to join in as we continue this study and conversation with the Gospel according to Luke and with each other. Contact Dan Love (dlove@ryepc.com) for more information and if you'd like to be on email reminder list.

Monday Morning Bible Discussion

Monday, February 3 and 24

at 9:30 a.m. in the Library

Join in as we continue our survey of the Hebrew Scripture with help from "The Bible Project" video. All are welcome. Dan Love (dlove@ryepc.com) if you'd like to be on email reminder list.

Women's Bible Study

Saturdays, February 1 and 29

at 10:00 a.m. in the Library

Please join the Women's Bible Study twice monthly on Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the RPC Library. A warm welcome and hot coffee await! For further information, contact Cynthia De Santis (desantisew@aol.com).



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, February 2,

following the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

The 2020 Annual Meeting of the congregation and corporation of Rye Presbyterian Church is called for Sunday, February 2, following 10:00 a.m. worship, in the Sanctuary. A brief summary of year-end reports will be followed by the presentation of the 2020 budget, acting on the terms of call for the pastors, and acting on changes to our by-laws. -Doug DeStaebler, Clerk of Session

Contemplative Saturday at 5 Service February 29 in the Chapel

Come, enter God's presence.

Find your center.

THROUGH THE
BEAUTIFUL GATE
PILGRIMAGE

FEBRUARY 9 - 20, 2020

RPC Members travel to Israel
Please keep 11 members of the church going to the Holy Land this month in your prayers.

They will be traveling from February 9-20, and will be commissioned during worship on February 9.

February Schedule of Meetings, Events, and Programs

CHURCH OFFICES AND BUILDINGS CLOSED ON PRESIDENTS' DAY, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

BOARD MEETINGS

Deacons: Wednesday, February 12, 7:30 p.m., Library
Trustees: Wednesday, February 12, 7:30 p.m., Westminster Room
Session: Wednesday, February 26, 7:45 p.m., Youth Room

WORSHIP AND STUDY

Worship on Saturday Evening:

Saturdays, 5:00 p.m., February 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 (Contemplative Worship)

Worship on Sunday:

8:30 a.m. Worship & Communion in the Chapel

10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday Services: Wednesday, February 26, 12 noon and 7:00 p.m., Chapel

Prayer Gatherings: Sundays in the Library at 8:40 a.m.

Adult Education:

Sundays, 9:00-9:45 a.m., Westminster Room:

Coffee & Conversation: February 2, 9, 23 (*no class on February 16—Presidents' Day weekend*)

Sunday School: Regular Sunday School on January 2, 9, 24. Enrichment Sunday on February 16.

Confirmation: Sundays, Westminster Room, 3 & 4 p.m., February 2; 4 & 5:00 p.m., February 9 & 23

Men's Sunday Bible Study: February 23, 8:00 p.m., Library

Monday Morning Bible Discussion: February 3 & 24, 9:30 a.m., Library

Women's Bible Study: Saturdays, 10:00 a.m., February 1 & 29, Library

Women's Discipleship: Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18, & 25, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Library.

YOUTH

Boy Scout Troop #2: Every Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Assembly Room

Middle School Connection: Wednesday, February 5, 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 26, 6:15 p.m. Youth Room and then Chapel for Ash Wednesday service; Saturday, February 29, 9:00 a.m. meet at RPC to go to Dinner at Noon

High School Youth Group: Sunday, February 9, 6:00 p.m., Kitchen (Coming Home meal planning);

Thursday, February 13, 6:30 p.m., Kitchen & Westminster Room (Coming Home dinner);

Sunday, February 23, 6:00 p.m., NOLA meeting #2 and Bingo fundraiser event planning.

MUSIC

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

Children's Choir Rehearsal: Thursdays, 3:30 p.m., Choir Room

Youth Choir Rehearsal: Sundays TBD

OTHER CHURCH MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND PROGRAMS

3 Ts: Tuesday, February 18, 10:00 a.m., Library

Coming Home Dinners: Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., Westminster Room

Mission & Outreach: Wednesday, February 5, 7:30 p.m., Library

Stephen Ministry:

Stephen Leaders: Tuesday, February 4, 6:00 p.m., Library

Continuing Education and Supervision: Tuesday, February 4, 7:00 p.m., Library

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

Women's Association Monthly Meeting: Monday, February 3, 9:00 a.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., Youth Room

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

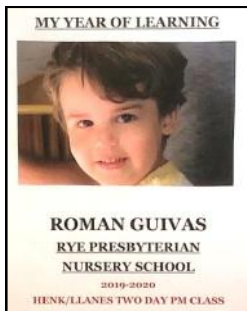
Helping Hands: Thursday, February 20, 10:00 a.m., Kitchen & Assembly Room



Rye Presbyterian Nursery School

Greetings to the RPC Community from Kristin Bassett Kumar

The Two-Year-Old Year:



The RPNS two-year-old year is filled with joy, magic, and tremendous wonder!

For many of the students, it is their first school experience. The children transfer their trust from home

to school, and develop meaningful relationships with teachers and peers. It is a gift to watch two-year-old development throughout the school year. At the start of the year, the twos can be a little uncertain of this new experience and engage at their own pace. Our twos teachers support each two-year-old and encourage them to participate in the new activities throughout the school day. The teachers place great value on the children and provide love and tenderness as they explore school. The two-year-old classrooms are designed to express a sense of warmth, curiosity, and exploration. In our Reggio-inspired philosophy, we refer to the classroom environment and how it supports as a "third teacher." The way the teachers design the classroom spaces



and all the experiences that are laid out for the children are intentional to spark curiosity and support age

level learning. Children are introduced to different materials in our twos program that they will use throughout their RPNS journey. They explore with writing materials such as: mini golf pencils, mini crayons, hole punchers, and scissors - just to name a few! The daily writing exposures are a support and building blocks for the future years when the students learn how to form letters and numbers in the 3s, 4s, and 5s at RPNS.



Social-emotional and language development are exercised daily in the twos!

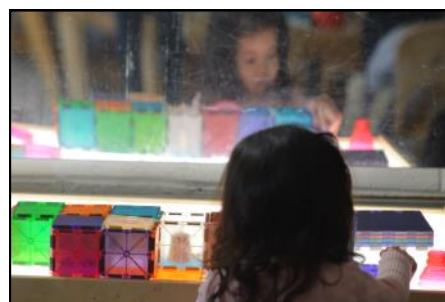
The children express themselves with teachers and peers. Social language emerges and friendships are made. Peer interactions are treasured and the children learn, along with teacher scaffolding, how to negotiate, problem solve, and express themselves. The two-year-old teacher shows the children that their words are valued and the teacher supports peer interactions through consistent conversations. The teacher places a focus on the development of the whole child throughout the day. Developing warm and supportive relationships with our children and families is a goal in the



twos. We strive to create school community connections that promote a memorable two-year-old experience!

To mark the growth and meaningful experiences in the twos, the teachers document the journey from the first day to the last day in the twos through creating books that highlight the special class experiences. The books serve to document their educational journey and can be revisited weekly or even in years to come! The books support the home/school connection and build upon parent/teacher/student communication.

We cherish our twos and appreciate this beginning year in preschool. It is a gift to watch the children develop into their own! There are so many special moments in the twos that we hold dear to our hearts! Our twos are a vessel of wonder and discovery. We look forward to continuing to watch them grow throughout their journey at RPNS!



Rye Presbyterian Church
882 Boston Post Road, Rye, New York 10580

Tel: 914.967.0842 / www.ryepc.com

We are a Stephen Ministry church.