



As you know, I have recently returned from a three-month sabbatical. I thank the Personnel Committee, the Session, and the Trustees for making this possible, along with Dan and Jean-Paul for allowing the “space” for me to do so. The folks mentioned above were aware of the focus of my sabbatical, which was to think about what retirement might look like for me, and for our church. While my original sabbatical plans changed because of the pandemic, I still engaged in a variety of activities – online seminars, zooming with retired colleagues, reading, and some time away alone for reflection.

I went into my sabbatical with the intention of retiring at 66½. (I turned 64 in July.) I began serving in a church as a youth intern when I was 19 years-old. I have served eight different congregations since 1976 in the capacities of intern, assistant pastor, associate pastor, pastor/head of staff, and now co-pastor. I was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in June, 1982. I’ve been in some form of ministry for 44 years now. It feels like a long time – I’m tired, but not burned out, there’s a difference.

But my thinking has changed. While on sabbatical I read M. Craig Barnes’ book entitled, “Diary of a Pastor’s Soul – The Holy Moments in a Life of Ministry.” Dr. Barnes is the president of Princeton Seminary. Through a series of short vignettes, the book tells the story of a fictionalized pastor, embarking on his final year before retirement, who reflects on the experiences and relationships that have formed his vocation and shaped his soul over a lifetime of pastoral ministry. I was profoundly moved and inspired by the book. Of course I’m tired at times – I am aging and don’t have the same energy I once did, but I came to understand that some of my tiredness is a “good” tiredness as a result of being used by God to do the good work of my vocation.

Dr. Barnes tells the story of a Sunday school teacher of his youth, Mrs. Williams, who used a flannelgraph to bring biblical stories to life for her children. She overused the Apostle Paul to the point that he barely stuck to the board any more, he was stained, and at one point had his head torn off, so that now it was held on by tape.

Then Dr. Barnes shares these words which were so powerful for me: “Mrs. Williams was proclaiming to the children in her classes a holy mystery she never intended to communicate – God is not easy on the people used in the holy drama. By the end of their lives, even the best of them were taped together and discolored. The apostle Paul had been chased out of half the cities in the Roman Empire by the end of his life, typically with a shower of rocks behind him. But when he wrote one of his last letters to the Philippians from jail, all he wanted to talk about was his surpassing joy. I think that’s because his life’s delight was that he got used in the biblical drama. As Abraham, Moses, Rahab, and David’s lives also depict, a leader’s only fear is that failure might cast them aside from the drama of God’s redemptive work with mere mortals.”

Dr. Barnes concludes: “This is part of what it means to be called to be a pastor. The calling doesn’t come our way because we deserve it. We don’t. It comes only because God chooses to use flawed creatures to take a role in the high drama of proclaiming grace to all who are taped together and stained by life. God’s doesn’t protect pastors. How could that be if the message to all is, ‘I know what you’ve done, left undone, and what’s been done to you. But I’m dying to love you.’”

As I thought about what I might want to do post retirement, there is nothing more appealing than what I am doing now. And so your stained and taped together co-pastor returns from sabbatical with a renewed sense of call and the prayer of hoping to serve with you until age 70. It’s good to be back. I look forward with surpassing joy to how God is going to use me in the holy drama.

Shalom,

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Stephen Ministry, New Members Welcome, Give Online, Prayer Wall



The natural world can offer signs of seasonal change, igniting the senses, stirring excitement, or offering comfort. However, when change is too abrupt or uncertainty lingers, we often need more support to untangle worry or find courage. RPC's Stephen Ministers meet one to one, listening confidentially so that each in need can be reminded of what Paul wrote to the Romans during uncertain times, "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor heavenly rulers, nor things that are present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

If you or someone you know is in need of skilled, compassionate care while navigating the challenges of this season please contact Stephen Ministry Leader Patti Adimari (914-844-8974, pattirvs@optonline.net) or the RPC clergy.



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.



PRAYER WALL

As a way to connect to one another and to God throughout this time, you are invited to make prayer requests known on the RPC website Prayer Wall (<https://ryepc.com/article/rpc-prayer-wall/>). Together we continue to pray for all those in need throughout this unique time. All can share anonymously, but please keep in mind that it is a public forum.

Become Part of Our Church Family

New Member Welcome Discussions October 18 & 25

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, community, and mission 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 the Rye Presbyterian Church are invited to take part in the New Member classes. The classes are Sundays, October 18 and 25, at 11:15 a.m. via Zoom. In these 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, for those choosing to join the church, there will be a Zoom meeting with the leadership of the church on Sunday evening, November 8, at 7:00 p.m. This is a time to meet the officers of the church and for the Session to meet briefly to approve the new class for church membership. Public welcome and recognition of the new members will take place during worship on Sunday, November 15.

Anyone wishing to find out more about joining the church should contact Peggy Berretta in the church office – pberretta@ryepc.com or 967-0842 x11.

SUNDAY CHANCEL FLOWERS

During this time, you may still make a donation of the 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 for a \$70 donation.

The flowers are a blessing to worshippers attending the service live in the sanctuary as well as those attending via ZOOM.

Your donation will be noted in the church bulletin and the weekly email.

To make arrangements, contact Denise LeVan (dlevan@ryepc.com).



Caring for our Community during COVID

As the COVID pandemic lingers on into the second half of this year, some of the most essential service providers are the non-profit organizations that are filling in the gaps for the many families struggling to survive from loss of income and health issues. Our local food pantries are seeing as much as 10 times the number of people seeking food. Requests for help to pay rent and utilities and stop evictions are flooding community centers. Cries for help for mental health services and domestic violence are on the rise. Childcare centers are trying to find creative, safe ways to reopen so children can receive educational support and parents can return to work. Our non-profit partners are working tirelessly to address these needs with reduced staff and shoestring budgets.

The Trustees of Rye Presbyterian Church raised these challenges during their June meeting and asked how our church could address the needs. In these unprecedented times, the Trustees unanimously voted to allocate \$50,000 from our supplemental funds to the local organizations most in need. (This represents less than 10% of our reserve fund.) The Session backed the proposal and directed the Mission and Outreach Committee with the Women’s Association Grant Committee to determine to which causes and organizations to give.

Ten of our partner organizations were selected to receive these supplemental grants, totaling \$36,000. The remaining \$14,000 is set aside for emerging needs in the coming months and to cover the shortfall in funds from the RPC Thrift Shop closure for regular grant gifts. In addition, M&O gifted \$5,000 to Exodus, our partner in prison ministry, from the unused budget due to the suspension of the Coming Home program.

The directors of the grant organizations are overwhelmed with gratitude for this additional support. Their responses express the hope these gifts bring:

“There are mornings I wake up and am not sure how this will all come together. However, a mother emailed me recently that it was because of the ability of Kids’ SPACE to cover the gap in the school day, she would be able to keep her job. This validates all that Kids’ SPACE is doing to safely welcome children back. The financial support to help families such as that one is an incredible gift.” Lauren Collins, Kids’ SPACE

“Thank you so much for your prayers. We treasure them. I simply have no words to express our gratitude for the support you have given us. We are beyond grateful. With the loss of jobs, closing of businesses, etc., we expect, unfortunately, the numbers of hungry and food insecure to continue to remain high. We have many more children coming to our pantry, some of whom look to be in severe need. Through it all, we continue to praise God for his provision and for all who have helped us. Thank you again.” Sherri Falco, Bread of Life

“This grant will make a big difference in the lives of our participants and bring comfort and much needed support during these challenging and uncertain times!!: Noral Reissig, Exodus Transitional Services

<u>Grant Recipients</u>	<u>Purpose of Grant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bread of Life, Rye	Food	\$ 5,000
The Bridge Fund of Westchester	Rent & utilities for clients; added social worker	\$ 5,000
Children's Center for Learning	Diapers and supplies for Headstart	\$ 2,000
Community Resource Center	Rent payment to prevent evictions	\$ 2,000
Kids’ S.P.A.C.E. of Rye	Chromebooks & Scholarships	\$ 3,000
My Sisters' Place	Telehealth & confidential email systems to aid clients of domestic violence	\$ 5,000
A House on Beekman	PPE & ventilation systems for after-school facilities	\$ 4,000
Caritas of Port Chester	Prepared meals for homebound, made inhouse & by local restaurants at discount	\$ 4,000
Family Services of Westchester	Pandemic Supportive Services for COVID patients in their homes	\$ 4,000
Open Door Family Medical Center	PPE for patients	\$ 2,000
TOTAL		\$ 36,000
Exodus Transitional Services	FROM COMING HOME BUDGET Food, medicine, clothing for released inmates housed in NYC hotels	\$ 5,000

Christian Education



Throughout October, we are continuing on with virtual Sunday School! The curriculum is Illustrated Ministry's *The Beatitudes: An Illustrated Curriculum*. Through art, reflection, and discussion, we will learn about Jesus' vision of God's kingdom for all people, how Jesus turned expectations and traditional beliefs about being blessed upside down, and how to live into the promises of Jesus' Beatitudes from Matthew 4:23-5:12. Each week we will focus on a different theme:

Oct 4: Blessed Are Those Who Mourn

Oct. 11: No Sunday School
(Indigenous Peoples' Day/
Columbus Day Weekend)

Oct. 18: Blessed Are The Meek

Oct. 25: Blessed Are Those Who Hunger and Thirst

Each Sunday we will meet as a combined 30-minute class for PreK-5th grade via Zoom at 9:00 a.m. During each session, we will catch up with one another and discuss our welcome question. Then we will reflect on that morning's theme, offer a blessing to one another, and end our time together with a few discussion questions and a prayer. If you would like your child(ren) to participate via Zoom, please fill out the registration form on our website [here!](#)

We are also including a Family Page in our weekly Christian Ed newsletter for families to engage Jesus' Beatitudes together at home! The Family Page consists of a central question, a brief reflection, a coloring page, an activity and a prayer. If you would like to receive these materials and are not already signed up for our newsletter, please contact Rev. JP (jmarshall@ryepc.com). We hope you and your families join us as we engage scripture and live into the promises of Jesus' Beatitudes together!

Children in Worship

While we have begun gathering in person for worship again, it will be a while until we can start up in-person Sunday School and Child Care. **So to our families with young children:**

"Jesus said to them, 'Allow the children to come to me. Don't forbid them, because God's kingdom belongs to people like these children...' Then he hugged the children and blessed them."

-Mark 10:14-16

Jesus not only welcomed children, he also blessed them. Know that your children's presence in worship is both welcome and a blessing to us all! Here are some ideas to help make the most out of worship as a family:

- Please make sure to register to attend worship each week so we know how many from your family will be attending. — [ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/](https://www.ryepc.com/worship/worship-at-rpc/)
- Bring crayons or colored pencils from home so your children can color the provided coloring pages and illustrated children's bulletins.
- Explain what is happening during worship and what is coming next. Let children cross things off in the bulletin as they happen. Whispering is okay!
- When it's time to stand, allow children to kneel on the pews if they would like.
- Allow children to participate in the offering by putting in your envelope or putting in their own gift. A picture drawn for God is appropriate!

Most importantly, relax and be at peace. We know that God made children to be full of energy and excitement. We look forward to seeing you all in worship!

Pumpkin Carving

Sunday, Oct. 18, 3:00-4:00 p.m.,

Great Lawn: Join us for our annual Pumpkin Carving event. *See next page for details.*

Middle School Connection

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

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 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, Oct. 21, 5:30 p.m.,

Assembly Room: Join us as we come together to serve our neighbors! More information coming soon!

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 @rpcccon to 81010 or sign up at:

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

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, Oct. 4, 6:00 p.m.,

Assembly Room: Join us as we write cards of love and support for our elderly neighbors! Please wear masks!

Sunday, Oct. 18, 6:00 p.m., via Zoom:

Join us for the second part of our "Faith in an Anxious World" series! We will identify the pressures we feel as members of families, cultures, and peer groups. And we will discuss how God designs us to be a part of groups and families, and how to build a circle of care we can ask to be with us when we experience both good and bad times.

Sunday, Oct. 25, 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! 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

[\(www.instagram.com/ryepresyouth/\)](https://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, Children & Youth Choirs, Connection, Pumpkin Carving

Confirmation 2021

A new confirmation class is underway! The entire class met late last month to kick the year off and get to know each other a little better. All a little challenging under our current circumstances, but we do our best! We will jump right in with classes in the late afternoon on Sundays October 4 and 18. Soon they will be wrestling with the deeper questions of the Christian faith: Who IS God? What is that Bible really all about? How can this world be both so beautiful and so broken? Where do I fit in the larger story of what God is up to?

Please keep this year's class in your prayers throughout the coming months!

Classes: October 4 and 18. Zoom at 3:45, in person section at 5:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room.



JOIN THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR OR THE YOUTH CHOIR!



CALLING ALL CHILDREN IN GRADES 1-6

CALLING ALL YOUTH IN GRADES 7 AND UP

These choirs are accepting new members and welcoming back old ones for the 2020-2021 school year.

THIS YEAR WE WILL BE LEARNING AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE AND DELVING INTO THE ART OF MUSICAL SIGNING!

For more information, please contact
Lisa Rawson, Director
lrawson@ryepc.com

Connection Connecting



PUMPKIN CARVING

**Sunday, October 18,
 3:00-4:00 p.m.,
 Great Lawn**



Join us for our annual Pumpkin Carving event and enjoy a super fun afternoon filled with the carving of pumpkins and great company! Each family will gather on provided and socially-distanced table cloths with their pumpkins and carving tools. Costumes are welcome! No refreshments will be offered this year.

Registration is required - no walk-ins will be allowed. Registration for the event will be found on our website starting Thursday, October 1, and ending on Sunday, October 11. Space is limited to 50 people, so please register early (<https://ryepc.com/article/pumpkin-carving-sunday-oct-18/>)!

Please make sure to wear a mask for the event! Also, please know that a health check via a sign-in sheet will be required upon arrival.

Music Notes, New Window Update, Baptipalooza



From Jason Charneski

Update on the New Organ for the Chapel

Installation of the new organ for the chapel now is slated to begin on October 1, with completion on or soon after the week-end of October 17/18. This slight delay is due to new state-required COVID tests for anyone crossing the border (the organ and the installation crew are coming from Quebec) – the result must be negative no more than 72 hours prior to the planned border crossing.

Update on Reading the Bible

On June 1, I began my daily discipline (well, almost daily...) of reading the Bible (*The New Oxford Annotated* version of the NRSV) in published order (beginning with Genesis, ending with Revelation). As of today (September 23), I am about to begin Esther (the last of the historical books). 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.

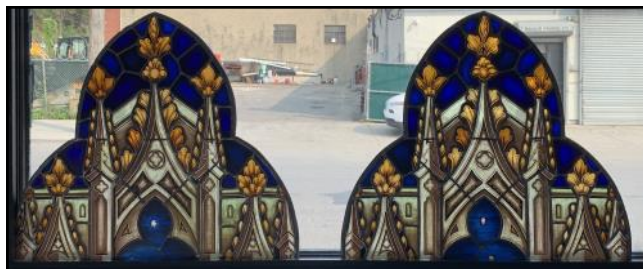
Since my last update, I read 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah. The Chronicles provide some more detail (genealogies galore!) about the period of the reigns of the kings of Judah and Israel (primarily from David onward) to the Babylonian exile. Ezra and Nehemiah focus on the return to and rebuilding of Jerusalem (along with the Temple) and the reestablishment of the practices/laws of worship and community as given by God to Moses (published, primarily, in Exodus, Leviticus, and Deuteronomy). Again, the cyclical process of sin/punishment, confession and petition/mercy, and honoring of covenant/blessing is depicted clearly.

Series of Videos on the Docket

Once installation of cameras and new microphones (for recording and livestreaming) in the sanctuary is complete, I hope to post to the church's YouTube channel some videos. One series will be a five-part exploration of the chancel organ, intended for all ages (you will see parts of the organ that are not visible; for instance, the largest pipes that produce the lowest pitches). Another round of videos will take a closer look at a piece of music to be offered in worship (hopefully for the very next Sunday) – a hymn, the vocal solo, etc. – and how it relates to the sermon theme(s) or scripture lessons.

New Window update

With Session approval, the new Abraham and Sarah window for the sanctuary is now under construction at Rohlf's Studio in Mount Vernon. As you can see in the photos, the "flag" portion of the window, along with the canopy over the figures, have been completed. They are hopeful the window can be installed by the end of the year.



Baptipalooza!
Sunday, September 13
A Record 8 Baptisms!

Thrift Shop, Women's Discipleship Group, In Memoriam

Weather Permitting!

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

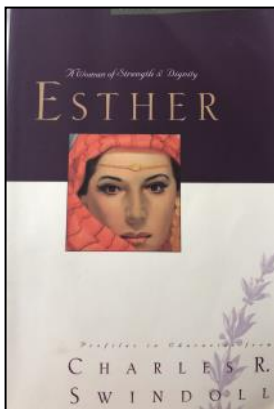
**THRIFT
SHOP**

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

Selling Procedures

Please remember, details may change. You can help us stay open by being patient and following the rules.

1. **Parking:** You can park on Parsons St. or in the Pre-School lot (the one down the driveway off Milton Road).
2. **Waiting:** There will be no place to wait before we start selling at 10:00 a.m. - please stay in your cars until then.
3. **New goods will be brought out all morning, so no need to get there at the open.** We plan to be intentional about this, because need to spread people out.
4. **Masks: Worn properly and social distancing** required at all times, even though you are outside.
5. **Limiting Shoppers:** Our space, across from the High School, will be sectioned off. We reserve the right to limit the number of people at any one time, to protect everyone's safety.
6. **No one will be allowed in the building.**
7. **Donations:** You may drop off one - *and only one* - bag/box of donations. Thank you, but we are still short on space!



Note new day & time:

Wednesday Mornings
Women's Discipleship Group
 8:30-10:00 a.m.,
 Via Zoom

Please join our discipleship
 as we continue our study of

**Esther: A Woman of Strength
 & Dignity**
 by Charles R. Swindoll

For more information, please contact
 Alicia Baldwin (alicia.baldwin@verizon.net), or
 Courtney Bennett (Courtneybennett910@gmail.com).

In Memoriam

Recent Passings in our Church Community



- Janet Bouton Thurber, on May 1,
 sister of Ed Bouton
 Alan Merten, on May 21,
 father of Melissa Belleville
 Sally Olmsted Weeks, on June 2
 Ana Velasquez, on July 6,
 sister of Juan Velasquez
 Wayne Lyski, on July 31,
 father of Karen Beatty
 Eliza Luke, on August 25,
 daughter of Jaclyn & Charles Luke
 Joanne Foresman, on August 25,
 mother of Bob Foresman
 Hayley Ann Kohn, on August 26
 Gilbert Heller, on September 21,
 husband of Zdena Heller
 Major General (retired) Herbert Thomas Taylor Jr.,
 on September 23, father of Dinah Howland

Worship

Weekend Worship

As we move into October, 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 fall and will become a permanent feature of RPC. Over the summer, work began on the installation of a permanent system in the sanctuary with multiple cameras, more microphones, and an upgraded sound system. 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



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/*



SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

If you'd like to be of service during worship on Sunday mornings, either virtually or in person, please email Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com, or chat message the Sunday virtual usher. We could use help both with in-person ushering; with the running of the live-stream from the sanctuary, and with virtual ushering online.

Excellent training available!

Bible Studies, October Meetings

BIBLE STUDIES

Men's Bible Study

**Sundays, October 4 and 18,
at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom**

All are welcome to join in as we continue our Sunday evening reading of the Gospel according to Luke. We are working our way through it (slowly ...no, thoroughly!), but new fellow readers are always welcome! This month we will meet on Sundays, October 4 and 18, at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom. If you'd like to be on the email list, let Dan Love know: dlove@rvepc.com.

Monday Morning Bible Discussion

**Mondays, October 5, 19, and 26,
at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom**

This month the morning Bible Discussion group will continue work on our survey of the New Testament. To help guide us on this overview tour, we are using videos from *The Bible Project* (bibleproject.com) - a great resource for anyone wanting to learn more about the bible.

In our pandemic tradition, we are meeting most every Monday at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom, but come when you can! This month we will meet October 5, 19, and 26.

If you'd like to be on the email reminder list, contact Dan Love at dlove@rvepc.com.

Women's Bible Study

**Saturdays, October 10 & 24,
at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.**

For further information,
contact Cynthia De Santis

OCTOBER MEETINGS

Board Meetings

Deacons: Wednesday, Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Trustees: Wednesday, Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Session: Wednesday, Oct. 28, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study: Sundays, Oct. 4 & 18, 8:00 p.m., via Zoom

Monday Morning Bible Discussion: Oct. 5, 19, & 26,
via Zoom

Women's Bible Study: Saturdays, Oct. 10 & 24, via Zoom

Youth

Confirmation Class: Sundays, Oct. 4 & 18, at 3:45 p.m., via Zoom and 5:00 p.m., Assembly Room

Connection: Wednesdays, Oct. 7, 5:30 p.m., via Zoom, and Oct. 21, Serving Our Neighbors. Assembly Room.

High School Youth Group:

Sundays, Oct. 4, 6:00 p.m., Card Writing, Assembly Room,
Oct. 18, 6:00 p.m., "Faith in an Anxious World," via Zoom,
Oct. 25, Vespers, 6:00 p.m., Assembly Room & Zoom.

Children's Choir: Thursdays, 3:30-4:15 p.m., locations TBD

Youth Choir: Sunday, Oct. 4, 11:00 a.m., via Zoom

Other Church Meetings

3 Ts: Oct. 20, 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).

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

New Member Welcome Discussions: Sundays, Oct. 18 & 25,
11:00 a.m., via Zoom

Personnel Committee: Monday, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Pumpkin Carving: Sunday, Oct. 18, 3:00 p.m., Great Lawn

Stephen Ministry meetings via Zoom:

Prime Ministers: Thursday, Oct. 1, 6:30 p.m.

Even Stephens: Monday, Oct. 5, 5:00 p.m.

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

True Blues: Wednesday, Oct. 7, 7:00 p.m.

Thrift Shop: Open Thursdays, *weather permitting*, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., OUTSIDE - *see page 7 for details.*

Women's Discipleship Group: Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m.,
via Zoom (*note new day & time*)

Worship & Music: Monday, Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m., Chapel



The High School Youth Group painted the church's new labyrinth, which was purchased with Imagine funds.

Rye Presbyterian Nursery School

Greetings to the RPC Community from Kristin Bassett Kumar

RPNS Outdoor Spaces

Written by Mrs. Keegan and Mrs. Faucher,
RPNS Educators

We are truly fortunate at RPNS to have so many spacious areas for the children to play outside. Throughout the week, the children spend time at the bike track, outdoor classroom, playground, and great lawn. Each space offers wide and varying choices for play-based, physically active learning experiences that are linked to children's interests, abilities, and prior knowledge.



The Bike Track

The children have so much fun riding bikes around the bike track! They enjoy racing around the track with their classmates on a beautiful day while working on coordination, strengthening their leg muscles, and maintaining an awareness of those around them.

Outdoor Classroom

The outdoor classroom provides the children with an abundance of rich opportunities to learn. The fountain is located at the children's level so they have easy access to water and its collection of rocks. Shelves are filled with containers



of all sizes and shapes for transporting and comparing quantities of water. Paintbrushes of varying sizes, watercolors, and sponges are available to the children so they can work independently and collaboratively with containers of water to paint



the table, wooden fences, and plexiglass easels. The space is also perfect for outdoor snack time, bubbles, listening to music, and drawing with chalk.

The Playground

There are endless opportunities to run, climb, and engage in imaginative play. Children enjoy digging and building in the sandbox, laughing with friends on the tire swing, climbing the ropes, balancing on the log, playing basketball, and (of course) running.

The Great Lawn

The Great Lawn provides endless possibilities for learning and movement such as dance, holding outdoor lessons, and exploring nature. When headed to the lawn, the children take clip-



boards and their supplies and sketch the trees around them. The classes go on a hunt for natural items. The items they find such as leaves and pinecones are used in the classroom for art projects.

[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

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We are a Stephen Ministry church.