



“Again, I emphasize, be a giver, not that you may be noted and admired as such by men, for if you are rewarded for such by men, it is not necessary for God to reward you, and it is preferable to be rewarded by God.

In short, don't make a big thing over your generosity, sounding trumpets and waiting for a crowd to gather to announce your kindness. This kind of giving has a reward, but it is earthly and shallow, but giving quietly and graciously so much so that you hardly know yourself how generous you are being, and your Father in Heaven, who knows all things, will reward you in His way.” - Matthew 6:1-4 (The Word Made Fresh – A down to Earth version of The New Testament by Andy Edington.)

Three years ago in this space I shared with you some insights gained from one of my favorite summertime activities – building sandcastles. I want to share with you another one of my summer obsessions knowing that even as I do, it may sound a bit strange, yet it is still something that I have learned from in life. In the evenings, at dusk, I enjoy sitting on the front porch of the manse and watching the bats. Yes, I said bats!

You can almost set your watch by when they begin to appear each evening. They often come from my left (when sitting on the porch) which has me thinking that they may be “hanging out” in the louvers of our steeple. They are the only mammal

that can truly fly (flying squirrels glide, not fly). Most bat species are insect eating machines, performing incredible aerial acrobatics as they chase and devour 20-50% of their weight in insects each night. Contrary to popular belief, they are not blind, and use echolocation to track the pesky flying insects (read mosquitoes here) that “bug” us, which are a staple part of their diet. Their guano is also used for a variety of purposes, especially as fertilizer.

These amazing creatures serve as an illustration for our lives. Based on Jesus’ words from the Sermon on the Mount noted above, I believe God wants us to be dependable, determined, fruitful, non-trumpeting people of good will, not just good intentions. Jesus revels, Jesus takes delight, in watching us making twists and turns in life so that we can hone in on those things which need our attention – be they people, relationships, or situations in our world clamoring for our attention – where we can make a difference. We may not be able to consume 20-50% of our body weight in mosquitoes, but we can make a difference in someone else’s life, every day. Just as these creatures do amazing things as part of our ecosystem, so too God wants us to be doing amazing things in and for God’s good creation all around us. How might God be calling you to use your “echolocation” – your heart tuned in love – to seek out someone who needs to be consumed by your love, your grace, your gifts – today?

Peace,



Food Truck Sunday, June 27.



Jason Charneski demonstrates new chapel organ in a concert following worship on June 13.



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Stephen Ministry, Kellogg Award, RPC Ball Game, Dave Coleman Concert



The question continues to be “What happens AFTER the pandemic?” During an unprecedented year with limitations impacting the way we connect with others, many people persevered at loving their neighbor in creative ways. Stephen Ministers continued to safely listen in one-to-one caring relationships.

Losses suffered were often unique and heightened because of the distance recommended to protect one another. Still, many express the struggle remains amid a new-normal in school, at work, and at home. Losses experienced even months ago are accentuated as the world joyfully returns to normal.

Equipped to be “The After People,” Stephen Ministers consistently and confidentially show up after the loss of a loved one, after a divorce, after a chronic diagnosis, or after any number of other life difficulties. If you or someone you know is struggling with hardship or heartbreak “after the pandemic,” please contact our Clergy to learn more about the support offered by Stephen Ministry at Rye Presbyterian Church.

JOAN KELLOGG AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE



The RPC Women’s Association is proud to honor Cheryl Flood with its annual Joan Kellogg Award for Outstanding Service at the RPC Thrift Shop. The honoree is nominated by his/her fellow volunteers and voted on by previous winners of the award.

Cheryl Flood is no stranger to RPC, having served as head of the nursery school for many, many years. After much persuading by the thrift shop group, Cherie agreed to give volunteering a try. Like everything she does, Cherie gives her all, serving as head of Tiffany sales, working each and every shift. She has developed a following of customers who love her professionalism and cheery personality. Our thrift shop volunteers could not agree more!

During a year of uncertainty, Cherie’s dedication and constant presence made her a role model for all.

Congratulations, Cherie!

RPC GOES TO THE BALL GAME—Friday, July 30.

We have reserved a group of seats up top at Citi Field to enjoy an evening together at the ballpark – on Friday, July 30. If you are interested in being a part of the group, please contact Dan Love for more information and to reserve seats – dlove@ryepc.com. Please do so ASAP. Hope to see you then!



RPC WILL BE ROCKIN’ IN THE MIDDLE OF JULY - DAVE COLEMAN IS COMING BACK!

Sunday, July 11, 3:30 p.m.

On Sunday, July 11, at 3:30 p.m., the Great Lawn of RPC will be filled with the sound of music and stories presented by Dave Coleman. Pre-pandemic, Dave gave a similar concert well over a year ago in the Assembly Room, which was enthusiastically received. While this is an encore performance, it is filled with new songs Dave has written in the past few months, new arrangements of old songs, and new stories of his path to redemption during almost 40 years of incarceration.

Those who have heard his new compositions, including your correspondent, have been extremely impressed with Dave’s growth as an artist and the depth the songs touch on important messages like love and freedom. We urge you to come, bring some friends, and enjoy an afternoon on the Great Lawn. There’s plenty of room! If you were at the first concert, this is far more than an encore. And, if you haven’t heard Dave perform before, you are in for a very special treat.

Tickets are \$10 per person, payable on your way in—this is the honor system, since there’s no door to the Great Lawn, and there are lots of ways in. This will be an exciting, entertaining, and fun-filled way to spend a Sunday evening in July and we hope to have a full house!

Come and enjoy yourself outdoors on what we hope will be a balmy summer evening. Please bring a chair or blanket, whichever will be most comfortable.

Christian Education



We are taking a break from Virtual Sunday School this summer so we all can come back refreshed for the beginning of the program year in September!

It is our hope to kick off in-person Sunday School once again this fall! At the same time, as with most things in our lives right now, it may not look exactly the same as it did before, at least not at first. If you are a parent or someone interested in teaching who wishes to learn more about what Sunday School will look like in the fall, you're encouraged to contact Rev. JP or attend one of the following Zoom sessions this summer:

- **Wednesday, July 28 @ 7:30pm**
(Parent)
- **Thursday, July 29 @ 7:30pm**
(Teacher)
- **Saturday, August 21 @ 10:00am**
(Teacher)

Weekly Christian Ed Newsletter

During the summer, we will continue to support our families through our regular weekly Christian Ed newsletter! If you would like to receive our weekly newsletter, please contact Rev. JP - jmarshall@ryepc.com.

Our high school youth helping Furniture Sharehouse with their Comfy Chair Parade event at Trinity St. Paul's Episcopal Church in New Rochelle.



Middle School Connection

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

Saturday Morning Donuts & Lawn Games: Throughout the summer, all youth are invited to meet **on the Great Lawn** on **Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m.** for donuts, lawn games, and connection! Please let Rev. JP know (jmarshall@ryepc.com) know if your youth will be joining us so we can make sure to have enough donuts. We will gather on the following Saturdays:

July 10, August 14, August 28

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.

YOUTH GROUP High School Youth Group

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

• Summer Book Study.

Join us as we read *This Book is Anti-Racist* by Tiffany Jewell.

We will meet four times throughout the summer to discuss the four sections of the book. Participants are also encouraged to work through the companion guided journal, *This Book is Anti-Racist Journal*. Please consider

purchasing both books at our local bookstore, Arcade Booksellers.

We will meet on the following dates at **6:00 p.m.** in the **Assembly Room:**

July 25—Opening the Window:

Making Sense of the World

August 15—Choosing My Path:

Taking Action & Responding to Racism

August 29—Holding the Door Open: Working in Solidarity Against Racism

If you wish to join us for this book study, contact Rev. JP - jmarshall@ryepc.com.

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July 10, August 14, August 28

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.



On Wednesday, June 9, Middle School Connection met under the Grape Arbor for an evening of good food, lawn games, and end-of-the-year fun!

Worship, Giving

Weekend Worship

As we move into July, 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. 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 spring and will become a permanent feature of RPC. The installation of a permanent system in the sanctuary with multiple cameras, more microphones, and an upgraded sound system has been completed. 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. 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!



Audrey Love's bike crew joining in for church at RPC from Missouri.

Worship in the Sanctuary In Person

NEW GUIDELINES

Reservations are not needed for the time being.

Masks are optional for the fully vaccinated!

For a full update on our worship guidelines, go to page 3 of this publication or click here:

<https://ryepc.com/article/updated-worship-guidelines-may-2021/>

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/



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



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.



Bible Studies, Meetings, Thrift Shop, Nola, In Memoriam, Births

BIBLE STUDIES

Men's Bible Study

Sundays, July 18 and August 8

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

Over the summer, the men of Sunday evening will slow down the pace, but continue their discussion and fellowship as we enjoy our way through the Gospel of Luke. We will meet on Sundays, July 18 and August 8, in the church Library with a Zoom option. If you'd like to be on the email reminder list for this great group, please contact Dan Love, dlove@ryepc.com.

Monday Morning Bible Discussion

We'll be taking a pause for the summer—but we'll be back at Jesus' parables in September!

Women's Bible Study

We are taking a break for the summer - we'll be back in September at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.

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

JULY-AUGUST MEETINGS

Church Office Closed on Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day

Bible Studies

Men's Bible Study: Sundays, 8:00 p.m., July 18 & August 8, Library

Youth

Connection & High School Youth Group:

Donuts & Lawn Games, Saturdays, 10:00 a.m., July 10, August 14 & 28, Great Lawn

High School Youth Group: Summer Book Group, Sundays, 6:00 p.m., July 25, August 15 & 29, Assembly Room

Other Church Meetings

3Ts: Thursdays, 9:50 a.m., July 15 & August 19, via Zoom.

Contact **Jane Mickatavage** (914-967-8622) or **Nancy Steed** (914-328-9658).

Dave Coleman Concert: Sunday, July 11, 3:30 p.m., Great Lawn

RPC Baseball Event: Friday, July 30, Citi Field

Stephen Ministry:

Prime Ministers: Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, August 5, 12, 19, 26, via Zoom

Thrift Shop: Closed until September



Thrift Shop Volunteers Year-End Gathering in Grape Arbor

Wednesday Mornings Women's Discipleship Group is on hiatus until September!

For information contact:

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

In Memoriam

Recent Passings in our Church Community

Scott Campbell Ratsey on May 27, brother of Cindy Young



Frances "Mimi" Blakeslee on June 2, mother of Francie Stella



Jay T. Miller on June 19, brother of John Miller



THRIFT SHOP

The RPC Thrift Shop is closed July & August.

Please note we are unable to accept donations at this time.

Stay tuned for Fall update!



Please keep all those journeying to New Orleans this summer in your prayers! A trip of 10 youth, along with Dan Love and JP and Susie Marshall, will be traveling during the week of August 1-7

We will commission the participants during worship on Sunday, August 1.

NOLA Instagram Updates

Want to know what goes on during our NOLA mission trips? Follow our Instagram account, **user name:** ryepresyouth, to see some highlights of our trips.

Birth Announcements



Andrew Gray Schumacher on May 20, son of Kyle and Austin Schumacher and grandson of Sue and Andy Goodenough and

Lane Nelson Harrington on April 26, daughter of Ally and Ford Harrington

Rye Presbyterian Nursery School

Greetings to the RPC Community from Kristin Bassett Kumar

WE DID IT! We are so proud that the nursery school ran successfully throughout the pandemic. With positive energy and a “can-do” attitude, the RPNS faculty was able to accomplish something quite remarkable! Our students not only had a full year of in-person learning, but formed incredible friendships and made huge strides in their development! We are so grateful for our families who supported us through this time and helped our beautiful school continue to thrive! The RPNS faculty wishes you a fun-filled summer!



[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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We are a Stephen Ministry church.