

The Good News Letter

May 2012



The Presbyterian Church, Pleasantville, New York

"To know Jesus Christ, to make Him known, and to serve others in His love."



We Celebrate Confirmation

May 20th

We hope you can join in the celebration of our Confirmation Class uniting with the congregation. The day will include a breakfast for the confirmands and their families and a cake at Coffee Hour. Hope you can make it.

Chopped!

Challenge to Change
Fundraising Dinner

May 20th 5-7pm



Come enjoy a great dinner, find out more about justice issues and watch a competitive cook-off that will be sure to be entertaining!

Fireman's Parade & BBQ

Friday June 1st - 6:45pm



It is that time of the year again to gather on the church lawn and watch the Fireman's Parade! The parade begins at 7pm and we'll gather before Bedford Road is closed.

Be sure to put this on your calendar. Pono and Mark will again be our master barbeque chefs. Look for the sign up sheet in the foyer.

Come to an Extraordinary Birthday Party May 6th

Ah, 1922. Ninety years ago! It was the year presidents William Taft and Warren Harding dedicated the Lincoln Memorial, construction began on the original Yankee Stadium, and the Teapot Dome scandal broke. On the world stage, Mussolini rose to power in Italy, the Ottoman Empire was abolished, and British archeologist Howard Carter discovered King Tut's tomb.

But wait. At least two more extraordinary events occurred in 1922: the births of **Tom McConnell** and **Lew McKinney**. In a church with plenty of distinguished former and current Elders, they are our super-duper elders: indeed, at **90 years old** this year, the oldest men in our congregation.

So let's ring in their May birthdays in style! Please join us for a potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall after church on May 6th. We'll provide the main dishes, and we're asking attendees to bring side dishes and a few desserts (the junior and senior highs will be making the birthday cake).

It's not too late to sign up. Look for the poster in the church entry.

See you there!



Our Easter celebration included our annual Eggstravaganza. The hunters as they prepared to find the goodies.

Pastor Debbie "Growing Season"

Dear Friends in Christ,

Boy have I been having some fascinating conversations lately. For starters, on Presbyterian Night, our Confirmation Class members explored a variety of facets of being Presbyterian. I got to be in the Book of Confessions Center, and after talking about how the confessions were usually written as the churches proclaiming of God's Word to a troubled situation, we shared our thoughts on what Gospel word the church needs to lift up today. What a privilege to hear these young people talk about the good news the church needs to tell to our hurting world.

David Frost, Farmer, Commissioned Lay Pastor and former Pleasantville Presbyterian Church' Pastors Kid, came to share some intriguing and challenging ideas about our ability to positively impact our environment as stewards of God's Creation. Our Challenge to Change program for youth and adults is really sparking some exciting ideas.

Sarah Henkel facilitated our Leadership Retreat last Saturday and started a conversation about Multiculturalism with us, by showing us a variety of ways to communicate and listen to one another. I look forward to continuing to grow and learn together with all of you, as we explore what it means to be the church in our complex world.

May this Spring be full of opportunities for us all to grow as disciples of Christ,

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Debbie



Save the Dates

Men's Breakfast	May 5
Confirmation Retreat	May 4/5
90th Birthday Party	May 6
Challenge to Change	May 16
ASP Pancake Bfast	May 19
Pville Day Booth	May 19
Confirmation	May 20
Chopped Dinner	May 20
Fireman's BBQ	June 1
Choir Sunday	June 3
Youth Sunday	June 10

News from Session

Some highlights from the April 18th meeting of Session...

- Pastor Debbie was excited about the Continuing Education conference she attended on justice and ecumenical advocacy in Washington, DC.
- Mark Zarick reported on attending the Presbytery meeting in White Plains.
- Bryan Bardin updated the Elders on Challenge to Change. There are 17 people going on the trip to Florida and the monthly meetings are going well.
- Kim Lewis announced that the Appalachia Service Project destination this summer is Delbarton, WV (population 450, near the Kentucky border).
- Kim also reported that we were honored to host a small gathering at the Zarick's house to meet the President of the ASP, Walter Crouch who was in town for a quick visit to thank our church.

Are You Graduating?



Our graduates will be honored on June 10th. While we know the names of our church's high school graduates, we do not want to overlook graduates of other schools or programs.

If you or someone you know is graduating this spring, please contact the church office at 769-0458 and let Jo Anna know who we should recognize. Thanks!



PROVERBS 17:22, NRSV

Sunday School & Christian Ed News

Confirmation Retreat

May 4 & 5

Our confirmands are going to be enjoying a little bit of time away at Camp Holmes on May 4-5th. We will continue to explore issues of faith and grow as a community. Our "Covenant Partners" will be joining us on Saturday to share in the journey.

Be sure to ask the confirmands about their experiences.

Confirmation Update

We are continuing along in our journey towards confirmation. It's amazing to share the experience with the youth of our church. Together we have looked at big things like mission and sharing the "Good News" to relatively smaller things like what it means to be Presbyterian. We hope everyone is there to celebrate with us as our youth confirm their baptisms on May 20th.



Summer Sunday School

It's barely spring, but the CE committee has already begun talking about Summer Sunday School! We are going to hold class in July and August and we will explore two of the three points in our church's mission statement; "make Jesus known," and "serve others in Jesus' love."

We will talk about missions the church is involved in and how we can talk about God with our friends (maybe even invite them to EVBS)! If you are interested in helping make Summer Sunday School happen, talk to Bryan or Kathy Brown.

Sunday School Planting

On Mother's Day, May 13th, our Sunday School students are going to share some joy and love with the whole congregation by planting annuals in our gardens. If you want to get down and dirty with our kids, bring some gardening tools and gloves and lend a hand!



Ecumenical Vacation Bible School August 13-17

At our church!

Come for a week of incredible fun, learning and music. Sign up will be in May, so don't miss it.

Every kid wishes they could fly... So imagine transforming your church into the boundless blue sky! At Sky VBS, kids discover that by trusting God, everything is possible.

Adult and youth volunteers needed.

- Crafts
- Recreation
- Teachers
- Teacher Assistants
- Group Leaders

Registration begins in May.
Space is limited.

For more information,
talk with Anel Fourie



Easter Eggstravaganza...preparing for the big hunt.

Church News & Upcoming Events

Men's Breakfast



Saturday
May 5th

7:30am

Make Gospel Bracelets on Pleasantville Day



Come down to our church table on Pleasantville Day and help make "gospel bracelets" and reach out to the community. The day will also feature our annual button making and maybe even frog bowling. It's always a fun time, so come down and help or just come and have fun. For more information, or to volunteer, talk with Barb Loizeaux.

Rummage Thanks

Rummage was a great success. Thanks to all who helped in so many ways, those who donated, sorted, priced, baked and shopped. More details in the June newsletter.

Summer Gardening

Spring is here and the plants and weeds are growing. The children will be planting annuals in May and we will all be enjoying summer flowers soon.

We need your help now and over the summer to help keep our flower beds looking great. Please consider giving one week when you will weed and water where needed. Contact Cathy Fellows for more info or sign up in the foyer.



Challenge to Change Summer Program Fundraiser

One aspect of the Challenge to Change program is a summer mission and experiential education trip to Lithia, Florida where we will work with migrant farm workers, an inner city homeless shelter, a community farm project, and we will learn about justice issues and human trafficking in the United States. We will be hosting an educational dinner and fundraiser on May 20th from 5-7pm. So, after a long weekend with Pleasantville Day, come relax at the church to learn a little about food justice including Fair Trade, sustainable agriculture and all the people that dedicate their lives to bring us our food. We will also be hosting a "Chopped" cook off using fair trade products. Be sure to be there!

Challenge to Change Learning More About Sustainable Living

Our Challenge to Change initiative continued on April 18th when David Frost discussed with us sustainable living. He shared from his vast experience as a community farmer and about his newest venture, bringing a sustainable farm to Camp Holmes. Be sure to put Challenge to Change on your calendar for May 16th 5:30-7pm.

Home of Hope



Scholarship Fundraiser

Saturday, June 2nd

6-9pm

Hillside Church
Armonk

Note Date Change

Pleasantville Presbyterian's Appalachia Service Project

Community Pancake Breakfast



Saturday, May 19th

Pleasantville Day

7am ~ 11:30am

Buy Some ASP Stock

Appalachia Service Project

\$10 a share with great dividends



This is one of the major fundraising events of our church-wide mission project. So, if one of the ASP's asks you to buy stock in the project, please consider it. The trip changes the lives of the participants, and makes a big difference in the lives of those they serve in Appalachia.

The Presbyterian Church

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A Fun Time in the Easter Photo Booth

