



The Good News Letter

Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

SEEKING • CONNECTING • SERVING



STOP THE BLEED

Except in movies or murder, accidents come without warning. They take us by surprise. Suddenly an injured person can be right in front of us, bleeding, needing help, and we can be in the desperate position of needing to know what to do.

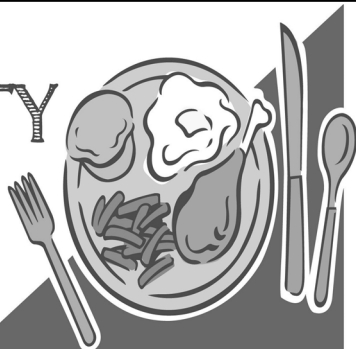
We do know. We call 911. And then?

Then we need to **stop the bleeding, fast**. An injured person can bleed to death in as little as five minutes and some of those minutes have already been used to phone 911. A bystander may be the only help available. That bystander can be a lifesaver IF the bystander knows what to do.

On Sunday afternoon, January 19, in a special class sponsored by your Presbyterian Women, a small group of serious students learned emergency response from two members of the Pleasantville Ambulance Corps, Captain Kaitlyn Zapletal and Nancy Zezze. Through video presentation and hands-on application, this class learned

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COMMUNITY DINNER



Come Join Us!

Weekly Community Dinners
Thursdays at 6 pm

All are welcome to come help us cook beforehand OR eat (or both!)

All we require is your friendly presence!

Mission Statement

We are a people of God seeking to proclaim and live out the Good News of Jesus Christ.

We are called by God through the Holy Spirit to serve as a spiritual presence in our community:

- ◆ Nurturing spiritual growth and renewal;
- ◆ Providing sanctuary in a fast-paced world;
- ◆ Reaching out and sharing Christ with all;
- ◆ Passing on our faith to the next generation;
- ◆ Serving God through mission outreach.

Our love and prayers go out to.....

Joseph Makosky
Alex, Sally & Pete Demeropolous
Heather Gilson
Betty deLaive
Taek-Sang Shin (Young Ran Shin's father)
Eileen Edwards
Christine Alvis' Mom, Marjorie Deutschmann
Eileen Edward's daughter, Jennifer
Don Bevill, Nicole Browand's step-father
Frank Gortsema
Rose Kantenwein
Dave Johnson
Co Holby
Baek Hap Kim (T.S. Kim's mother)
Bill Schmitz
Tom Levine
Christine Buyce
Gobin Latchoo

March deadline: February 15, 2020

Staff The Rev. Dr. Debra J. K. Bronkema, *Pastor*
Ruth Fischer, *Director of Great Beginnings Pre-School*
Jane Wong, *Project Mission Coordinator*
Dr. David Macdonald, *Music Director*
Evan Closser, *Organist*
Wendy Zaros, *Soloist*
Justin Hylden, *Ministry Associate*
Katelyn Westervelt, *Ministry Associate*
Jo Anna Tivnan, *Office Administrator*

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Facebook Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

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Pastor Debbie on Looking past the cold

Dear Friends,

It's cold right now, as I write these words – cold enough that everyone is talking about it. Cold enough that the windows can't stand up to the wind. And yet – there's something in me that likes the feeling of putting something warm around my shoulders, and being in this moment now. Now as you read this, I'm somewhere in between Florida, where I'm leading a Creative Writing as a Spiritual Practice Retreat, and Arizona, where I'm visiting my Dad as he recovers from Valley Fever – an Arizona disease. So to be fair, I know warmth is in my future. But there's something about winter that makes me feel as if I can slow down and take the time to notice the world around me, the creation God has blessed us with that we get to experience on a daily basis.

As February comes, we may not feel like we're ready for what's next, what's coming in 2020. We may not feel like we're sure what God has in mind. Truth is, we're never sure what God has in mind. Our job is to stay open to the journey, to be ready to say yes. To let the love of God move in our hearts and our hands – and listen for the road we are to walk on.

May the cold of this season make space in us for God to warm our hearts, and send us to those who need most to experience the love of God.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Debbie

REMINDER!! PHOTO EXHIBIT



New Dates!! April 18th and 19th.

PLEASE contribute one photo or many for our second community wide photography exhibit. Although the stated theme is "New Beginnings," we welcome any and all prints.

Last time we showed 75 prints in the library. This time the exhibit will take place in The Hub... just think about those long blank walls! All the particulars can be found on the church website www.pvillepresby.org or please see Katelyn or Jane with questions.



Save the Dates

<i>Souper Bowl of Caring</i>	Feb 2
<i>Annual Meeting</i>	Feb 2
<i>Women's Evening Bible Study</i>	Feb. 5
<i>Men's Breakfast</i>	Feb. 8
<i>Gun Violence Adult Ed</i>	Feb. 9
<i>Valentine Baking</i>	Feb 16
<i>Women's Evening Bible Study</i>	Feb. 19
<i>Ash Wednesday Soup & Service</i>	Feb. 26



Sermons on the Web

pvillepresby.org/sermons

Come to the Annual Meeting

February 2nd

Come to the Annual Meeting of the Congregation following worship on Sunday, February 2nd. Come hear about the committees and organizations of the church, read the 2019 Annual Report, you can review the 2020 budget and hear the recommendations of the Nominating Committee.

It's a great way to find out what's going on in the congregation and learn how God is leading us. Ask questions about programs, finances and get an idea of what's ahead. All are invited!

Church News

STOP THE BLEED

(cont from page 1)

to pack a wound and apply (or not apply) a tourniquet, practicing on manufactured body parts. The "injured" dummies all survived, of course, and so did the students, several of whom found applying their new learning surprisingly clear and simple but physically more effort than they expected. This experience offered reality and useful expectation of touch, made even more useful by the practical advice from the teachers who had been there, done that.

Several students in this fully-subscribed (plus one) class commented that they were very glad to have taken the class. It was admitted that some students who had earlier had First Aid classes found that their information needed updating. Some pointed out that the teachers had mentioned that there were two other classes that could be offered: CPR and First Aid. There were requests for those classes, especially CPR, so PW will consider those requests for future programs. Stay tuned.

Upcoming Adult Ed

Clean & Unclean: Understanding the Biblical Purity Codes
March 8th & March 15th

7 Deadly Sins: Tutorial Not Included
March 29th & April 5th

Keep an eye out next month!

Sunday School Spreads the Love by Baking



All children are invited to bake Valentine's cookies with their Sunday School teachers during the service on February 16th (in place of usual Sunday school). All materials and ingredients will be provided. The cookies will then be given to people in our congregation who are either shut in or need to feel some love from our kids.

Save the Rummage Dates!

May 1st & 2nd

Our annual Rummage Sale is coming! Mark your calendars now. Reserve the week of April 26th, or at least a part of it, as many workers are needed to have a successful sale. **Start saving your stuff!**

Thank You!

Children's Village would like to give a big thank you to all who donated to the Thanksgiving Baskets. Over 78 bags were delivered to families and residents of Children's Village.

"Love each other as I have loved you."
JOHN 15:12, NIV

Rummage Recycling Request

Now that New York State will be banning plastic bags we need to start collecting these bags immediately. Please start collecting them and hold them until we put out a collection box (in the lobby) early next month.



Time for Pre-School Registration

Great Beginnings, our church's pre-school, is currently registering 2½, 3, and 4 year-olds for the September 2020 class. Spread the word. Families who attend our church receive a tuition discount. Not only is this a great program for the little ones, it is also a great way to introduce families to our church.

Brochures and registration forms are available on the blue bookshelf in the CE wing or for more information call Ruth Fischer at 769-0826.

Save the Date!
Children's Sunday is
March 22nd

More information
coming soon!

Church News

Adult Ed program on Gun Violence

Skyler and Scott Mosenthal will be offering an adult ed program devoted to the issue of gun violence. There will be three sessions--February 9th, March 1st, and April 19th. The workshop, which has been inspired by a meeting last spring of church members interested in the topic, will be based on Donald Gaffney's book, "Common Ground".

The purposes for each of the three sessions will be as follows: to reflect on our own personal history with guns and gun violence, to explore how the Bible presents violence, and to reflect about how we as individuals might respond to situations involving gun violence in the future. It is not designed to develop a church-wide response to this issue. There will be brief writing exercises, handouts, a list of resources, and much discussion. All are welcome to come to any or all of the sessions. Please see either Skyler or Scott if you have any questions.

Dishcloths Request

Do you have unloved or gently used but no longer wanted dishcloths taking up space in your cupboard? Consider giving them a new home in our church kitchen. Donations can be left in the kitchen or given to Ruth Fischer. Thank you.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Ecumenical Worship & Soup Supper
Wednesday,
February 26th
 Presbyterian Church
 Soup at 6:30pm
 Service at 7:00 pm

Upcoming Special Music

At the Ash Wednesday service at 7PM the Chancel Choir will sing Gabriel Fauré's transcendent "Cantique de Jean Racine," with the fitting last stanza:

*O Christ bestow Thy blessing on us,
 We implore Thee,
 Who here are gathered on penitent knee,
 Accept the hymns we chant to Thine eternal glory
 And these Thy gifts we return unto Thee.*

On Easter Sunday the choir will sing the rousing spiritual, "The Angel Roll the Stone Away." A brass quintet will join us in celebrating the resurrection of our Lord.

As the weather has turned cold outside, nothing warms the body and soul like a steaming bowl of soup, and yet there are people in our very own community who go to bed hungry.



On Super Bowl Sunday, February 2nd, our youth are taking part in the national movement, "Souper Bowl of Caring." So as you are stocking up for your Super Bowl party, buy an extra can of food and bring it to worship with a few extra dollars for our church's Souper Bowl collection. All the donations will go to help those in our community who don't have soup for their bowls.

Ecumenical Lenten Services

Each year during Lent, our congregation gathers with the other Pleasantville churches for fellowship and worship.

This year is a little different: we will not be having services every week. Instead, join us at St. John's Episcopal Church on March 18th and the Emmanuel Lutheran Church on Good Friday. We will begin the services on Ash Wednesday at our church. ***If you are willing to bring a soup, please let Jane Wong know!***

Look for additional details soon in the Sunday bulletin or on our church website's calendar.

Youth Group News



General Info:

- We meet on Sundays from 5pm-7pm
- Junior High welcomes all 6th-8th graders to join!
- Senior High welcomes all

Calendar:

February 2 — Taste Test Games
February 9 — Valentine's Day Fun
February 16 — Movie Night
February 23 — Fun & Games



Staff:

Junior High Youth Group

Justin Hylden — justin@pvillepresby.org

Senior High Youth Group

Katelyn Westervelt — katelyn@pvillepresby.org

February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Souper Bowl of Caring	3	4 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7:30pm Men's Bible Study	5 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	6 6pm Community Dinner 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm	7 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm	8 7:30am Men's Bkfst
8:45am Chancel Choir Practice 10am Worship Childcare in the Nursery 11am Continuation of Annual Meeting 5pm Jr. High Youth Grp. 5pm Sr. High Youth Grp.						
9 Valentine Stewardship	10	11 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7:30pm Men's Bible Study	12 7:30pm Session Mtg.	13 6pm Community Dinner 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm	14 6pm English Lessons - Campbell Rm	15
8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship Childcare in the Nursery 5pm Jr. High Youth Grp. 5pm Sr. High Youth Grp. 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal						
16 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship Childcare in the Nursery 5pm Jr. High Youth Grp. 5pm Sr. High Youth Grp.	17	18 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7:30pm Men's Bible Study	19 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	20 6pm Community Dinner 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm	21 6pm English Class - Campbell Rm	22 8am Set-up for ASP Dinner
23 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Deacon's Meeting 5pm Jr. High Youth Grp. 5pm Sr. High Youth Grp. 6pm ASP Dinner	24	25 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp 7:30pm Men's Bible Study 7:30pm Confirmation Class	26	27 6pm Community Dinner 6pm Spanish Class - Campbell Rm	28 6pm English Class - Campbell Rm	29
			Ash Wednesday 6:30pm Soup Supper/Service - PPC			

Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

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What is connect.faith?

As most of you know we have launched a new venture called **connect.faith**. It is a new worshipping community of Presbyterian Church USA formed by our congregation. Here are some FAQ's.

What is connect.faith and who is it for?

The vision of **connect.faith** is to create a spiritual community, not bound by location, for people who are seeking connections in faith, particularly in places where creativity, spirituality and justice meet.

What kind of content is there?

There are conversations about everyday spirituality with a variety of people; there are stories by Debbie and Bryan Bardin; there is an interview and music from Ike and Misty Sturm; and there is liturgical dancing with Emily Bronkema.

How does one join connect.faith?

Visit the website at connect.faith (yes, that's really the entire website!), find it on FACEBOOK, Instagram and Twitter.

Come to the annual meeting, see a video clip and find out more!

connect  **faith**
where creativity, spirituality, and justice meet