



# The Good News Letter

## Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

SEEKING • CONNECTING • SERVING

### Confirmation Class of 2019

Our confirmation class this year was made up of 8 confirmands representing 5 different school districts, and spanning grades 8 to 10. This diversity allowed each individual to come to class bringing their unique perspective to bear. What a wonderful picture of what God's Church is!

During class, we asked questions such as Who is God? What story does God tell us about God's self in the story of the Israelites? What is Sin? What is Church? What are Sacraments? What does it mean to be part of Church? Where do we fit into God's story? We were pleased that all our confirmands got to know each other and grew as a group at our day-long retreat to Camp Johnsonburg. We were also grateful to hear their thoughtful responses to the session members' questions in preparation for Confirmation Sunday. In short, we are happy and blessed to be able to welcome this faithful group of young people as members of our family here at Pleasantville Presbyterian Church.

**Congratulations, Confirmation class of 2019!**



### SAVE THE DATE!

#### Vacation Bible School!

August 12th-16th

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church,  
with a concert the evening of  
Thursday, August 15th.

The theme this year is  
**"Miraculous Mission."**

Classes are for children entering  
kindergarten through 8th grade.

Adult and high school volunteers  
needed to teach, lead games, and  
help with snack preparation, etc.,  
and childcare is provided for  
young children of volunteers.

For registration or more  
information, go  
to [www.pvillevbs.org](http://www.pvillevbs.org)

## Pastor Debbie on Moving and Changing on our Journey

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven. Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Dear Friends,

We get to celebrate beginnings and endings a lot around here. Between our school year celebrations (in September and June) – our Church liturgical year (that stretches primarily from Advent to Pentecost) – and the regular, or Gregorian, calendar (from January to December) – I feel like we get lots of chances to consider how we are moving and changing on our journey. These different ways of measuring time can help us focus on who we are as disciples of Christ, and who we are becoming as a church community.

So this past year – we’ve had some really interesting growth in our ministries to young adults, to youth, to caring for creation and adult education – as well as intentionally growing our digital ministries. I’m excited for the re-creation that summer brings! Time to pray, to study, to grow in faith – we need those quieter periods to continue to enrich what we do together.

I want to take this chance to express my thanks to our mentoring team (Jane Wong, Kat Nemec, Kim Kleman Lewis, David Fourie, Pono Wong, Amy Williams and Scott Mosenthal) who have, in a variety of ways worked with our three associates this year. They also worked with me to interview candidates for the program going forward. I’m looking forward to welcoming Justin Hylden as a new associate in September when he joins Katelyn Westervelt for year 2 of our program!

God’s blessings on your summer! Take the time to let your soul be filled!

*Pastor Debbie*

### Thank You Choir!

On June 23rd, we celebrated the gifts our Choir brings to Worship each and every week, by featuring an extended collection of pieces around a theme – Shape Note Signing. After the service we thanked them for all



### SUMMER CHOIR!

The Chancel Choir will be in session during part of the summer. They will sing hymns and easy anthems. If you have a desire to sing with the choir but want to start off in a fun, relaxed atmosphere, Summer Choir is just right for you.

The dates of Summer Choir will be July 7 and most of August.

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### Interested in Cooking a Meal?

From time to time members of our community need a helping hand-for all different sorts of reasons, from grief, to medical treatments to the arrival of a new baby. One way our church tries to help is with warm meals brought to their home.

Whenever a need arises, the church sends out a sign-up email with the different dates that would be helpful to the family and any specifics about their needs (i.e., no meat or no dairy). If you are interested in receiving these email sign ups and cooking a meal when needed, please email [info@pvillepresby.org](mailto:info@pvillepresby.org).



# Church News

## Thank You to Our Associates!

A huge thank you to our associates as they finish the first year of our program! As Debbie put it, we “couldn’t have asked for three more energetic, creative, dedicated, passionate people who were open to doing anything they could do to be faithful to following Christ and spreading his love.” This is not good-bye, but the next chapter in their personal journeys. Hannah is off to Toronto to pursue her PhD while Skyler is ready to finish his graduate work with student teaching at Irvington High School this fall. Katelyn will be staying with us for another year, and will be joined by our new Associate Justin Hylden, who has recently graduated from Princeton Seminary. Keep an eye out for more about him this fall!



## Great Beginnings Celebrations & Thanks

It has been a wonderful year! We joyfully celebrated “our” children’s achievements and as the year drew to a close both classes participated in very special culminating recognition events. On June 13th our 3’s put on a short program and received their certificates. On June 14th our 4’s participated in a graduation ceremony complete with sharing some songs and receiving their “diplomas”. Both celebrations included a reception in Fellowship Hall. A one month Mini-Camp will run until July 19th.

We still have a few openings for September, so if you know of someone looking for a pre-school invite them to visit our church’s. For more information see: [www.great-beginnings.org](http://www.great-beginnings.org), pick up a registration form on the shelf opposite room 105.

## Do you love butterflies?

So did Winston Churchill.

On his Chartwell estate he maintained a butterfly house where he bred rare species. On special occasions, he would release some in his garden for the pleasure of guests. His butterfly house fell into disuse but recently has been rebuilt and is now in use again.

If you would like butterflies in your garden too, all you really need to do is maintain a garden attractive to them. You can please yourself and make an important move toward keeping our pollinators alive and thriving.

Pollinators include bees, ants, moths, and hummingbirds, among others. Some of their favorite foods are people favorites too: columbine, black-eyed Susan/  
coneflower, milkweed, cardinal flower (lobelia), sunflower, joe-pye weed, monarda, meadowsweet, and more.



You need a small patch, a Pollinator Patch, preferably planted with native plants. You might even consider leaving a small space of ground bare for nesting or you might leave some autumn leaves for overwintering of eggs and pupae.

If you want more information or you just like to chat about it, you can ask one of our experts: Dory Baldwin, Dottie Dougherty, Mary Hagenbuch, Bennie Gray, Pam Love, Jane Wong, Cathy Fellows. This is an incomplete list but it’s a good start and every single one of them will share your interest.

# Church News

## Thank You from the Quimbys

A Heartfelt THANK YOU!

Or QQQQQQQQQQ

Yes, that was 10 Q's.



That is a Quimby family way of saying "Thank you".

The outpouring of support from our church family these last few months with the loss of our son, Christopher, has been such a blessing. So many thoughtful acts, but the memorial service and the deacons' reception afterwards still will bring a tear to our eyes. At a point in time when we were emotionally exhausted, the deacons took care of being hosts to our family and friends and did it so graciously. Our friends and family were impressed by the warmth and friendliness of our church family and the impressive amount of delicious food provided. A special thanks as well to Ruth Fischer and the Rummage Sale team for delaying the set-up for a day. That was a tremendous sacrifice.

But we have so much more to be thankful for. This church family has been supporting us with their prayers and acts of service for 28 years! We will NEVER forget that when Sarah and her stroller got to be too heavy to carry up the stairs, \$50,000 was raised to put in the elevator.

Our lives with Sarah and Christopher meant we never knew when the next hospitalization would come nor how long it might be. We kept in our wallets a listing of phone numbers for our "Minuteman Brigade," people who had said we could call on them anytime. It was such a comfort. Who could ever count all the meals that have been delivered over the years! We even had "Garden Fairies" come in to rejuvenate our garden when extended hospitalizations meant we couldn't. There was even one garden fairy who came and planted beautiful flowers while we were with Christopher for his final hour. To come home to that symbol of new life was overwhelming!

Recently, due to a worsening nursing shortage, Leslie had to stay awake all night to care for Chris several nights a week. We were so blessed to have volunteer bus drivers to take Chris to his day program in the morning so Leslie could sleep. They were lifesavers!

A few years back there was a book "It Takes a Village" to raise a child. Well, in our case it took a church family. QQQQQQQQQQ all very much!

~ Gordon and Leslie

## Looking Ahead to the Fall

### Homecoming

*September 8th*

**Hear about our summer missions and ministries.**

### Sunday School Kickoff

*September 15th*

**Come meet your teachers.**

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## Thank You from the Kersten Family

We, the family of Dick Kersten, want to express our deep gratitude for all of the love and support that we received during Dick's long illness and following his death. All of your prayers, cards, flowers, food, and thoughtful expressions of concern were a great comfort. There were some who were able to loan us equipment or share invaluable suggestions for home health care. Such a help! We are especially grateful for all who helped with the memorial service and the generous contributions for the reception.

This congregation is indeed a wide and wonderful "church family," for which we give thanks.

Doris, Karen, Ted, and family



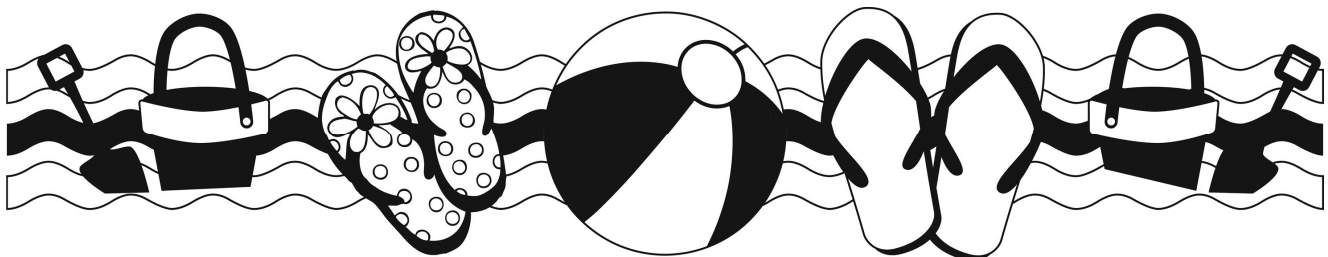
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		GBPS Summer Camp 9:30-12				
		10am Hearts & Hands		4 <sup>TH</sup> JULY		
7 8:45am Chancel Choir Practice 10am Worship Childcare in the Nursery 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	8	9	10	11	12	13
		GBPS Summer Camp 9:30-12				
		10am Hearts & Hands	6pm English Class – Campbell Rm. 7:30pm Evening Women’s Bible Fellowship	6pm Spanish Class – Campbell Rm.		
14 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery	15 12pm Midday Meditation	16	17	18	19	20
		GBPS Summer Camp 9:30-12				ASP Mission Trip
		10am Hearts & Hands	6pm English Class – Campbell Rm. 7:30pm Evening Women’s Bible Fellowship	6pm Spanish Class – Campbell Rm.		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
ASP Mission Trip						
	12pm Midday Meditation	GBPS Summer Camp 9:30-12				
8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery		10am Hearts & Hands	6pm English Class – Campbell Rm. 7:30pm Evening Women’s Bible Fellowship	6pm Spanish Class – Campbell Rm.		
28  ASP Mission Trip	29 12pm Midday Meditation	30 10am Hearts & Hands	31 6pm English Class – Campbell Rm. 7:30pm Evening Women’s Bible Fellowship			
8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Deacon’s Meeting						





# august

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
<b>4</b> 8:45am Chancel Choir Practice 10am Intergenerational Worship Childcare in the Nursery 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 12pm Midday Meditation	<b>6</b> 10am Hearts & Hands	<b>7</b> 6pm English Lessons	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7:30am Men's Breakfast
<b>11</b> 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
	Ecumenical Vacation Bible School 9-12pm					
	12pm Midday Meditation	10am Hearts & Hands	6pm English Lessons – Campbell Rm. 7:30pm Session Mtg.	5pm EVBS Show		
<b>18</b> 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery	<b>19</b> 12pm Midday Meditation	<b>20</b> 10am Hearts & Hands	<b>21</b> 6pm English Lessons – Campbell Rm. 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Deacon's Meeting	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10am Hearts & Hands	<b>28</b> 6pm English Lessons – Campbell Rm. 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>





## Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

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### A Summer Note on Stewardship

As we head into warm and balmy weather, our thoughts often turn to vacations, outdoor barbecues and other pleasures of the season. But, as we all know, other things are going on in our fellowship.

Next month forty-eight adults and young people, members of our congregation and volunteers from the community, will leave in vans for Nicholas County, WV, where they will spend ten days with hammers, saws and nails making homes warmer, drier and safer for people who live below the poverty line. A major mission outreach of our church, the work supports the activities of the Appalachian Service Project, a non-profit organization based in Tennessee that aims to eradicate substandard housing in central Appalachia. The journey will mark the twenty-first consecutive year that we have contributed our time and labor to the good works of ASP.

ASP is our largest individual stewardship effort, but by no means is it the only one. To name just a few of the others, our Loaves and Fishes program combats hunger in Pleasantville by providing fruit to dozens of people a week; the Midnight Run sends several adults and teenagers four times a year to stops in New York City to provide food, clothing, blankets, toiletries, and friendly conversation to the homeless; and people for whom English is not their native language can get instruction in that tongue every Friday night.

We are fortunate to have many congregants who dedicate important parts of their lives in service to others. And fortunate as well are those who have done so: as Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). But service, while vital, isn't everything; service can't exist without substance: Jesus also said, "The man who has two tunics is to share with him who has none; and he who has food is to do likewise" (Luke 3:11). Let's be mindful that there are always folks who need our tunics, even in the pleantry of summer.

