



The Good News Letter

Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

SEEKING • CONNECTING • SERVING



Fireman's Parade and Church BBQ - June 3rd - Many people celebrated by watching the parade and eating delicious food - thanks to all who made it happen and to those who attended!

Appalachia Service Project Volunteers Get Ready for Summer Mission Trip To Huff Creek, West Virginia



This year's ASP mission team has 49 volunteers who have been preparing for the annual home repair mission trip to Central Appalachia. In July the team travels to Huff Creek, WV, with 16 adult volunteers and 33 youths in 7 vans.

This spring the volunteers have prepared for the mission trip in many ways. They served over 130 patrons at the Community Pancake Breakfast in May, raised funds and conducted sensitivity training. They went to Holmes Presbyterian Camp for a day of team building and skill building. At Holmes, Bryan Bardin led a team-building "low ropes" course, and the volunteers practiced carpentry by constructing picnic benches for Holmes to use. On two other Saturdays, the volunteers also received safety briefings and honed their skills by building 10 saw horses. These saw horses, designed by Gary Dieckman, will travel with the group to West Virginia, where the volunteers plan to use them and then donate them to either ASP or the homeowners at the end of the mission week. Huge thanks to the many people who have generously donated the funds, time, skills and talents that enable this mission experience to go forward each year!

(cont'd on pg. 4)

Summer Community BBQ

Friday, July 29th
Front lawn of the church



4pm

Games • Fun • Food

Hamburgers & hotdogs provided
Bring a dish to share



Save the Dates! Homecoming

September 11th

We'll hear more about our summer missions and ministries.

Sunday School Kickoff

September 18th

Come meet your teachers.

Pastor Debbie on Digital Communications

Dear Friends in Christ,

Over these last few months we've been working on how we can connect and reach out through the possibilities that exist with digital communications. My first assignment was to learn what a podcast was. It's been a real education for me – one I've thoroughly enjoyed. In case you are like me, and haven't entered that world – let me just say – they have podcasts for everything from people who like to analyze the television show "West Wing" to people who enjoy Krista Tippett from PBS and the kind of interviews she does – to Tony Campolo and Shane Claiborne giving a Christian commentary together. It's a fascinating world available to anyone with internet access.

As we move step by step into this digital world – you'll begin to notice changes. We hope that the changes we make open up our ministry in ways that help more and more people feel included – and fed by the Spirit of God that's moving in our church leading us out into the world. Feel free to ask questions along the way. Elder David Fourie is chairing the Ministry Action Team – and I'm happy to talk with you at any time.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Debbie

Picture Use Policy

One of the ways that we communicate what's happening in the life of our congregation is by putting pictures in the newsletter (print and online) and also on our website.

As part of our efforts to increase our digital outreach, Session has adopted guidelines for publishing those photos. We have created an opt-out policy for those who would rather not have their photo or name appear in our paper or online publications. Look for details in the bulletin and on our website. For more information, talk with Pastor Debbie or Cathy Fellows.

Planning for the Year

July 27th- 7:30pm

All are invited to come help plan out the coming program year September 2016 - August 2017.

It's a great time to put our ministries on the calendar and into action. If you have questions or input, talk with Pastor Debbie or Jo Anna Tivnan.

Sing this Summer?

The summer is a great time to sing with the choir. The rehearsals are relaxed and fun. Try it, you'll like it. Either talk to Dave Macdonald or just show up at 8:45am on Sunday.

Summer Bible Studies

Evening Women's Bible Fellowship

Wednesdays, 7:30pm

July 6, 20 August 3, 17, 24, 31
Studying the Gospel of John

Women's Bible Fellowship

Tuesdays, 10-11:30am

July 12, 19, 26 August 2, 9, 16

English & Spanish Classes This Summer

We are happy to announce that our English and Spanish classes will run through the summer. Come on Fridays 6-8pm to learn with Victor Corona (English) or Susana Corona (Spanish). There is also an English class on Monday evenings with Charlie Titterton at 6pm. Call Charlie ahead. Lots of learning and fun take place. We welcome you to come or invite someone who might want to participate.

Help Garden This Summer?

It isn't too late to sign up to be a summer gardener for our church garden beds. Responsibilities include weeding and watering our beds for one week. Look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the downstairs foyer.

Films on Purpose

Films on Purpose is a new community-run film series which will show interesting films on environmental and social issues of our time. They are hosting their first screening on July 7th at 197 Broadway in Pleasantville of "Bidder 70", a film about one mans attempt to push back against the oil industry. For more information go to their website filmsonpurpose.org.

Church News

Jazz Vespers to Continue!

Save the Date - September 3rd

We had a great time with Jazz Vespers on June 4th, and the Session has voted with much enthusiasm to go forward with this ministry. We've had people come who can't attend worship on Sundays and other Pastors who can worship on Saturday evenings. We've also met new folks.

Come to the next service on September 3rd. The afternoon will begin with a front lawn BBQ and picnic, open to everybody, and will be followed by a Jazz Vespers worship at 5pm. From September on, the first Saturday of every month will have a 5pm Jazz Vespers service – so you can put it on your calendar!



ASP Commissioning - June 26th - As the Appalachia Service Project team prepares for their trip, the congregation commissioned them for their work and safe travels.

Honoring our Graduates

On Sundays June 19th and 26th, we honored our graduating seniors. Congratulations to all those who are graduating this year from high school and college on reaching this milestone.

Here are a few additions to the list of college graduates that we included in the June newsletter...

Matthew Scavarda

B.S. - Civil Engineering
Western New England University

Danielle Smith

B.S. - Biology
SUNY Oneonta

Julia Smith

B.S. - Biology & Society
Cornell University

Nicholas Smith

B.S. - Computer Science
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Summer ASP Trip *(cont'd from pg. 1)*

This year's ASP Theme is "Handiwork – Created to Serve," and it comes from Ephesians 2: "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life."

Please pray for the volunteers as they travel to West Virginia and discover good works that God has prepared in advance for us to do. Here is the current list of Pleasantville ASP volunteers...

Adults

Bryan Bardin
Kathy Brown
Gary Dieckman
Jo Anne Gullotta
Rich Gullotta
Mercedes Hobson
Patrick Kelly
Kim Lewis
Neil Marchi
Margaret Roney
Jeannine Tocco
Rich Tocco
Agostinho Tome
Pono Wong
Andrea Yahia
Gail Zarick

Youth

Kellie Allen
Alicia Alvis
Logan Bronkema
Jack Cooper
Manny Corona
John Geier
Lisa Gullotta
Kyra Hickey
Garrick Hoadley
Eric Hughes
Devin Juros
Rebecca Lord
Sarah Meisel
Anna Grace Mockler
Carl Mueller
Eric Mueller

Sarah Paraszczak
Cate Puglia
Sophie Rapley
Brendan Roney
Katie Schaub
Sydney Shulman
Alex Tjia
Audrey Tocco
Evelyn Tocco
Sofia Tome
Ben Trombetta
Joe Trudo
Harrison Waxler
Shane Willard
Jackson Wong
JC Yahia
Phil Yahia

Church News



Our theme for this year's Summer Sunday School is **"Helping Hands!"** In July and August we will spend our Sunday School class time learning about helpers in the Bible and doing something to help someone else.

We are looking for adult helpers in areas such as gardening, travel, baking, Midnight Run or other mission work. If you are interested, please talk with either Kathy Brown or Bryan.

Pastor Debbie Leads Retreat

Stony Point Center invites you to a **"Creative Writing as a Spiritual Practice" Retreat on September 25-27th.** Come away from the busyness of life to explore the power of words to open us up to the presence of God in our stories, our lives, our world. This retreat is interactive with lots of opportunities to write in community and on your own. No matter how much (or how little) writing you've done in the past, this retreat can be for you!

The retreat leader is our own Rev. Dr. Debbie Bronkema. To register go to Stonypointcenter.org or contact Pastor Debbie.

Thanks to our Intern Kiernan McCarthy

Kiernan McCarthy (Senior at Pleasantville High) spent the last month of her senior year interning at the church with Pastor Debbie and Bryan. She says she decided to do her senior internship at the church because she wanted doing something that would give back to the community.

During her time at the church she worked with the Great Beginnings Songbirds, helped plan worship services, cleaned and sorted in the office, and helped organize and present the findings from the Social Justice Internship's trip to the U.N.

We are sending Kiernan away with a big thanks and a bigger hug for everything she has done and we can't wait to see what's next for her.



Choir Recognition Sunday - June 5th - After giving the congregation the gift of beautiful music, the Choir was thanked with cake and flowers for their music, weekly commitment and enhancing our worship experience.



Ecumenical Vacation Bible School

August 8-12

9am - Noon

St. John's Episcopal Church

Kindergarten - 8th grade
Nursery & Pre-K available for children of volunteers

Adult and high school volunteers are needed

Talk to Anel Fourie or Bryan Bardin

Registration forms in the church office or online @ pvillevbs.org

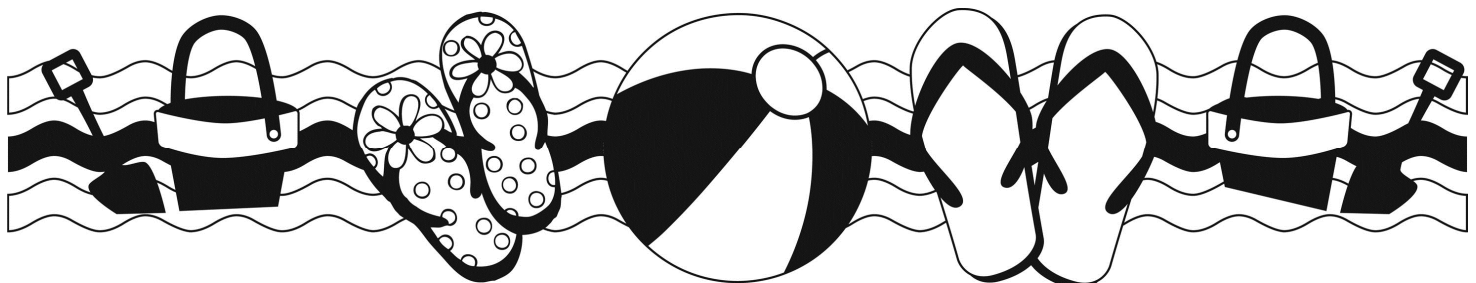
July 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9:30am Mini-Camp 6pm Spanish Lessons – 104 English Lessons – Campbell Rm.	2
3 8:45am Chancel Choir Practice 10am Intergenerational Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Mission Mtg.	4 	5 9:30am Mini-Camp 10am Hearts & Hands	6 9:30am Mini-Camp 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship	7 9:30am Mini-Camp	8 9:30am Mini-Camp 6pm Spanish Lessons – 104 English Lessons – Campbell Rm.	9
10 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 6pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	11 9:30am Mini-Camp 6pm English Lessons Library – call ahead 426- 0886	12 9:30am Mini-Camp 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp	13 9:30am Mini-Camp	14 9:30am Mini-Camp	15 9:30am Mini-Camp 6pm Spanish Lessons – 104 English Lessons – Campbell Rm.	16 ASP Mission Trip
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
ASP Mission Trip						
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24 ASP Mission Trip returns 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery	25 6pm English Lessons Library – call ahead 426- 0886	26 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women's Bible Fwshp	27 7:30pm Evening Women's Bible Fellowship 7:30pm Planning/Calendar Mtg.	28	29 3pm Summer BBQ and games 6pm Spanish Lessons – 104 English Lessons – Campbell Rm.	30
31 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Deacon's Meeting	<h2>Happy Summer!</h2>					



august

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
	1 6pm English Lessons Library – call ahead 914-426- 0886	2 10am Hearts & Hands 10am Women’s Bible Fwshp	3 7:30pm Evening Women’s Bible Fellowship	4	5 6pm Spanish Lessons – 104 English Lessons – Campbell Rm.	6
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21 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery 11:15am Youth Council Mtg.	22 6pm English Lessons Library – call ahead 914-426- 0886	23 10am Hearts & Hands	24 7:30pm Evening Women’s Bible Fellowship	25	26 6pm Spanish Lessons – 104 English Lessons – Campbell Rm.	27
28 8:45am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10am Childcare in the Nursery	29 6pm English Lessons Library – call ahead 914-426- 0886	30 10am Hearts & Hands	31 7:30pm Evening Women’s Bible Fellowship			



Pleasantville Presbyterian Church

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Recognizing our Graduates



Graduate Recognition - June 19th

Christopher Quimby is recognized for his graduation from Pines Bridge School. Leslie and Gordon Quimby celebrate with him as Pastor Debbie and Bryan Bardin present him with a book.



Graduate Recognition - June 26th

(L to R) Olivia Nemec, Kiernan McCarthy and Sophia Maldonado are recognized as graduates of Pleasantville HS as Pastor Debbie and Bryan Bardin present them each with a book.